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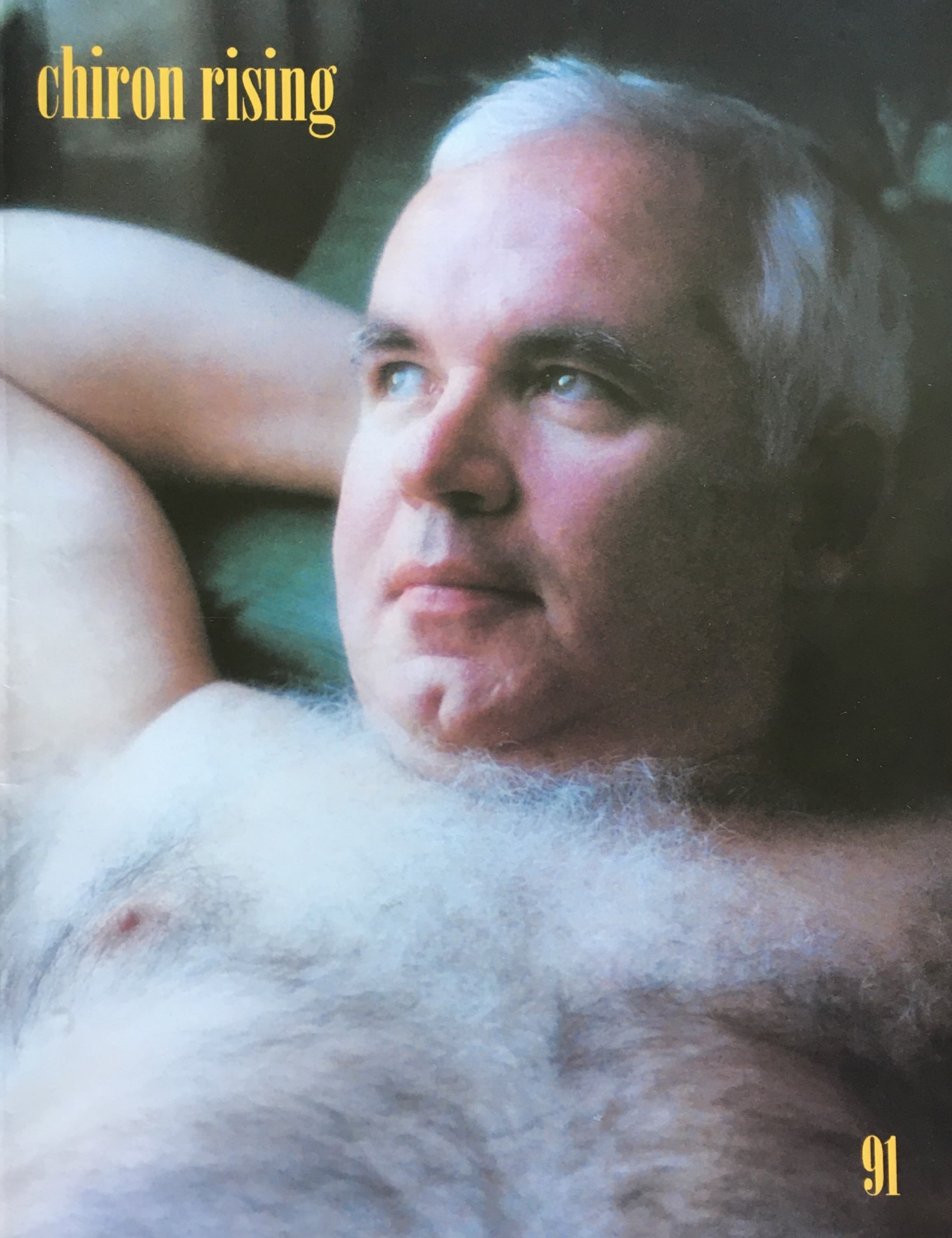

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FUZZYBEARVA
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CHIRON RISING MAGAZINE

PUBLISHER
Bruce A. Vaughan
EDITOR
Patrick H. Colley
FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPHY
Manny

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Telephone, outside U.S.
(760) 868-6371
Fax, outside U.S.
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WHO'S WHO IN THIS ISSUE

MODELS

FRONT COVER and PAGE 2 - **FUZZYBEARVA**: 54, 5'-11", 230#, Washington DC Metro, single. Likes cooking, movies, music, concerts, theater, swimming, furry bears, quiet evenings at home, and tinkering around the house. Looking for someone special between 40-55 who is romantic, fun-loving, caring, honest and secure.

PAGE 10 - **DAD4ACUB**: 50, 5'-11", 265#, Knoxville, single. Likes woodworking, astronomy, travel, chamber music, anything English. Looking for cub/son/companion who is uninvolved, loyal, monogamous, and masculine. (See ad this issue.)

PAGE 11 - **COWBEAR UK**: 37, 5'-10", 185#, London, single. Likes bigger or older daddy bear types, travel, especially to U.S. Looking for new friends, e-mail buddies or maybe more. E-mail: cowbearUK@aol.com

PAGE 12 - **CAKATA**: 65, 6'-2", 210#, Winter Haven, FL, single. Looking for younger fellow with a lot of life about them.

PAGE 13 - **C.J.**: 69, 5'-3", 172#, Dayton, OH, in an open relationship. Likes cooking, billiards, golf. Looking for new friends.

PAGE 17 - **HERMAN THE GERMAN II**: 58, 5'-6", 220#, Wisconsin, single. Likes younger men, travel, cooking, cuddling, etc. Looking for a relationship.

PAGE 18 -**TIMBO**: 30, 5'-11", 220#, Meadville, PA, single. Likes golf, music, exotic cars, and lots of snuggling. Looking for older man, 40-60, beards, bellies and salt 'n' pepper.

PAGE 19 -**BIG LION**: 37, 5'-9", 325#, Alabama, single. Likes movies, fishing, walking, flea markets, and country activities. Looking for clean older men (Daddy-types) for friendship, maybe more.

PAGE 26 -**ZIPPER**: 60ish, tall, lithe, Palm Springs, in an open relationship. Likes dogs and anything hilarious. Has his hands full, thank you, but would love to hear from his fans. Still holds the record for funniest scene in a porn video (the sundae construction scene with PAPPA BEAR).

PAGE 27 - **STRAC**: 57, 5'-10", 210#, Dayton, OH, single. Likes reading, historical documentaries, sports, hot tapes of mature men. Looking for 50+, friendship, intimacy and more.

PAGE 28 - **BIG O**: 56, 5'-8", 220#, Florida. Looking for relationship with a man 30s to 40s.

PAGE 29 - **BOBALOO**: 56, 5'-8", 190#, Springfield, MA, single. Likes old Hollywood, massage, nude sunbathing. Looking for someone with same likes.

PAGE 31 - **TENNESSEE COUNTRY BOY**: 63, 6'-1", 216#, Middle Tennessee, single. Likes relaxing, entertaining, cooking. Looking for the right man, preferably 40-50.

PAGE 32 - **REYES**: 26, 6'-4", 180#, Northern California/New Mexico, single. Likes Latin music (corrido to salsa) and rock & roll, rodeos, Southwestern art, motorcycles, love-making. Looking for masculine, non-effeminate man with similar interests, bilingual (Spanish/English) a plus.

PAGE 33 - **THOM OF FLORIDA**: 70, 5'-8", 150#, Florida. Likes golf, movies. Looking for friends.

PAGE 34 & 35 - **MARCO**: 70, 5'-8", 250#, Boston, in an open relationship. Likes nudism, traveling, meeting and making new friends. Looking for stocky to big, burly, hairy bears/daddy bears. Originally from Montréal.

PAGE 36 - **GEORG OF GERMANY**: 72, 5'-6", 185#, Germany, in an open relationship. Likes needlepoint, gardening, travel. Looking for good relationships. **ALABAMA**: 40, 5'-11", 180#, Alabama, single. Likes movies, flea markets, country drives, taking photos, quiet nights. Looking for bigger guys, any age, for friendship and maybe more. **GEDENKE MEIN**: 54, 6 ft., 225#, Boston area, single. Likes classical music, concerts, dogs, cooking, dining out, gardening, PBS, computers, stimulating conversations. Looking for articulate (ability or desire), reflective, financially stable younger man for friendship with the possibility for more. Nonsmoker, no drugs, moderate drinker okay. **PAT**: 60, 5'-6", 210#, Louisiana, in a closed relationship. Looking for good friends and real estate investors.

PAGE 37- **C.J.**: (see page 13 above). **RVer DENNIS**: 58, 5'-10", 160#, Florida/Maine, single. Likes camping, fishing, gardening, exercise, travel. Looking for fit younger top men. **SATORI** : 28, 5'-8", 160#, Sacramento, single. Likes music, metaphysics, martial arts, philosophy, psychology, self-development. Looking for older, mature, furry, facial haired, romantic, lively, big-hearted men. **MARC MANN**: 67, 5'-11", 178#, Laguna Niguel, CA, single. Likes sex, computers, photography, working out, porn acting.

PAGE 38 - **GOLFER**: 66, 5'-8", 252#, St. Petersburg, single. Likes stocky, over 50. Looking for friends. **BILL & STEVE**: 68/37, 6'-2/6 ft., 298#/205#, Dallas, in a closed relationship. Like travel. Looking for friends of CR. **RUNBARE**: 64, 6 ft., 235#, Ft. Lauderdale, single. Likes outdoors, arts and Indians. Looking for older men, his age or older, who are men's men, no fetishes, for single, one-on-one relationship. E-mail: <Runbare@ibm.net> **MICCA**: 62, 5'-9", 200#, Florida, in an open relationship. Looking for younger.

PAGE 39 - **ARNO**: 70, 5'-10", 245#, Cologne, Germany. Likes classical music, antiques, younger men up to 35 years in good shape. **FT. LAUDERDALE MIKE**: 64, 5'-8", 209#, Ft. Lauderdale, single. Likes sports, good food, cooking, travel, Florida living, classical music. Looking for similar to me, over 55. **ST. LOUIS ED**: 69, 5'-11", 210#, St. Louis, in an open relationship. Likes golfing. Looking for love in all the right places. **ILLINOIS RON**: 68, 5'-11", 250#, Chicago, in a closed relationship. Likes nature, dogs, gardening, mountains, the Caribbean. Looking for friends.

PAGE 40 - **SDNH RAY**: 70, 5'-9", 190#, San Diego/New Hampshire, in an open relationship. Likes music, painting, Oriental rugs, theater, walking, bears. Looking for mature fiends with similar interests.

PAGE 41 - **WIL HARRIS**: 53, 5'-8", 185#, East/West Coasts, single. Likes camping, biking, wrestling, traveling, and working out in the gym. Looking for 18-35, in-shape, down-to-earth cuties with heads on their shoulders and who are looking for a real man.

PAGE 42 -**SOUTH OF PHILLY PHIL.**: sixty something else, 5'-11", 195#,

Pennsylvania, in an open relationship. Likes art, gardening, film and the thought that youth is a gift of nature but age is a work of art. Looking for men, all ages, all races, all faces, and talent both vertical and horizontal. **AN AMERICAN IN LONDON**: 60, 5'-11", 230#, London, in an open relationship. Likes travel, opera, reading, and meeting new people. Looking for pen pals and opera lover friends. **HERBAL DEN**: 57, 5'-11", 170#, Central Georgia, single. Likes beekeeping, gardening, pets, travel, cooking, opera, ballet, classical music, Broadway. Looking for acquaintanceship to develop into friendship to grow into intimate partnership in long-term, monogamous relationship.

PAGE 50 - **SILVER FOXX & THE STUDENT**: 65/50, 5'-7"/6'-1", 214#/295#, Midwest. In a sexually open relationship with each other. Like country/western music, furry men, computers. Looking for mature, single, couples, bi men, 35+.

PAGE 51 - **KANSAS WALTER**: 24, 5'-10", 168#, Kansas City, single. Likes gardening, sports, travel, music, movies, and older men. Looking for older men over 45, no age too old. Grey hair and body hair a plus.

PAGE 52 - **MIKE OF FINLAND**: 34, 170 cm, 70 kg, Finland, in a monogamous relationship. Likes nature, reading, health, voluntary work, studying languages. Looking for pen friends from all over the world.

PAGE 60 - **THE ACCOUNTANT**: 67, 6 ft., 235#, New Orleans. Likes almost everything loving and gentle. He's really a hairless teddy bear. Seeks friendship and good sex.

PAGE 61 - **ROD PRICE**: 41, 6 ft., London, single. Looking for 50s/60s, 5'-9" or so, romantic, clean-shaven, Silver Fox voiced, passive, chubby, sensitive bottom. **FAST EDDIE**: 68, 5'-11", 230#, W. Pennsylvania, single. Likes hiking, cooking, traveling, sports, sex. Looking for friendship with younger guys, 30 to 60. **JOHN SUCRE**: 75, 5'-9", 155#, Sonoma, CA, single. Likes country living, travel, outdoors. Looking for a husband.

PAGE 62 - **TRICKY DICK**: 73, 5'-9", 195#, Cocoa, FL, in an open relationship. Likes art, computers, good music, the good life.

PAGE 63 - **HARLYNN**: 49, 5'-9", 300#, Brooklyn, single. Likes taking walks, animals, languages, being with people who look beyond his blindness and who do not mind giving occasional help. Looking for medium to heavy guys between 25 and 57, for sincere friendship with hope of finding that special guy. Can relocate. *[Editor's note: the fella at the bottom, Harly, also enjoys fan mail.]*

PAGE 64 - **LAKEFRONT JERRY**: 67, 6'-3", 220#, Chicago, single. Likes travel, movies, theater, long walks, collecting movie memorabilia. Looking for friends and long-term Mr. Right, 30s to 50s, reasonably good-looking, outgoing, any race.

PAGE 65 - **JACKSONVILLE BILL**: 38, 6'-2", 210#, Jacksonville, in an open relationship. Likes outdoors, beach. Looking for masculine men, 50 plus, Southeast or Florida areas.

PAGE 66 - **EROS** : 57, 1.65m, 70kg, Nice, France, single. Likes nude beaches, nudism, swimming, soccer, tennis, music (blues & gospel), travel, photography. Looking for older gentlemen, 65 to 85, very hairy, slender, white hair and/or balding, mustache, uncut, hung, for monogamous, loving relationship.

PAGE 69 - **PETER H.**: 59, 5'-9", 160#, Laguna Beach, in an open relationship with model JACK B. Likes furry men, bears, daddy types. Looking for diversity, mature, any age.

PAGE 70 - **KARL**: 63, 5'-10", 200#, Palm Springs, single. Likes Great Danes and great people. Looking for a real top.

PAGE 72 - **DAMAL & AUGUST MOON**: 40/52, 5'-9"/5'-11", 275#/275#, N.E. New Jersey/New York City, in a monogamous relationship with each other. Like sports, TV, gardens, travel, big men, theater. **CUDDLE BEAR & FREDDY GATOR**: Cuddle Bear :38, 6'-1", 210#, Orlando, in an open relationship. Likes computers, men, cars, men, home projects and men. Looking for older, heavier and hairier men. Freddy Gator: 68, 5'-10", 250#, Tampa, single. Likes men of all ages, over 30, with hairy bodies a plus.

PAGE 73 - **GEORGE & PIET**: George: 60, 1.70 cm, 90 kg, Holland, in an open relationship with Piet, as shown (no data on Piet). They like nude swimming and the beach. Looking for men, 30 to 45, no beard, moustache. **BUBBA & THOM**: Bubba: 35, 6 ft., 190#, Tennessee, in an open relationship. Likes antiques, toys, 60-plus men, flea markets, etc. Thom: See JOEL below.

PAGE 74 & 75 - **WILD WOLF**: 49, 5'-8", 250#, Mississippi, single. Currently undergoing indoctrination by the photographer, who will distribute fan mail to him.

PAGE 76 - GATHERING 99 GROUP PHOTOS

ARTIST

QUETZAL: 46, is a very bright and attractive artist who lives with model PLOVER in West Hollywood. He's the author of "Hand Jive Comix," advertised in this issue.

PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

BISCUIT: 63, 5'-9", 190#, Midwest, retired, in long-term, open relationship. Likes gardening, cooking, tennis and photographing men of all ages.

MIKE DEVEAU : 46, 5'-10", 220#, Palm Springs, single. He likes to have fun and is looking for other people to have fun with. Destined to photograph every hot mature man in Southern California.

JOEL : 33, Austin, in an open relationship with CR model THOM. He's always on the lookout for new models and has been known to travel widely just for that perfect shot.

MANNY : 48, 6'-3", 235#, Maryland, single. Looking for a long-term relationship with just the right mature, masculine, husky gentleman, 50+, who is healthy and hairy. Short and stocky men turn him on as well as the big and burly kind. The best cover-quality photographer around.

PEEWIT: 62, 6 ft., 200#, Brooklyn, in an open relationship. Likes writing porno, the beach, theater, giving oral sex as well as unsolicited opinions. He's one hot photographer, a dashing model, and an awesome writer.

PHOTOMAN is a 51-year-old silverfox and bear hunter with preferences for burly and husky men over 55. He is a professional photographer, nudist and golfer who is into computers, traveling and casino slot playing. He is a member of Show Me Bears and Ra of St. Louis. His bear codes: BO (h-) d+ f- w? g++ k+ s- E-mail: PhotoManCR@aol.com

TOMCAT: Late 40s, Mississippi, in an open relationship with THE COLONEL. This burly ex-marine loves to write and shoot photos of older men.

POSTCARDS FROM GATHERING 99

THE DELEGATES ...

"It seems that each Gathering is better than the last one. It may be that I am overcoming my inhibitions, but I can be a bit more outgoing and am able to approach a person, introduce myself, and carry on an intelligent conversation. I have met a number of very interesting persons at your Gatherings. I look forward very much to New Orleans 2000. My registration will be among the first received." ASCHE/Seattle

"I attended the CR Gathering in Orlando on the recommendation of a friend. I was a little leery of attending. I just want to express my complete gratitude to all of you for sponsoring such an uplifting event. It was a truly eye-opening experience for me and one I will not soon forget. Had a lot of fun and met so many great people. Met someone from New York, and we had a wonderful time together for the entire gathering. Have spoken frequently on the PC and we are planning to get together the end of June. He told me I would not be the same when I left the gathering and he was truly correct. I gained such a new perspective about myself and all the people around me. Looking forward to New Orleans. D.N./e-mail

"Considering you hadn't seen me for three years, I'm glad you recognized me right away. Those soothing words and the hug were just what I needed. You made me feel like a human being again. Please tell Bruce that I will always treasure that stunning photo of him on the cover. It's timeless. Happy 14th Anniversary. M.W./Seattle

M.W. is on dialysis and is awaiting a transplant. He had the guts to come to the gathering and made arrangements for dialysis while he was there. He worked his butt off for us. You don't forget men like him. Pat

"Greetings to all. I have found heaven on earth. it is the CR Gatherings. My congrats and thanks to all of the wonderful staff. Looking forward to many more. See ya. Mike/e-mail

"I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you from the bottom of my heart for the wonderful job you both did on the convention in Orlando. I have never felt so warm and loved in all of my life as I have among all of you guys. To me there are no finer men than the men of CR. I found a new family for sure. Looking forward to seeing you in New Orleans and if all continues to go well, I will have my new hubby with me. We owe you so much, because without CR we would have never met. Now all we have to do is close the gap between Tampa and Houston, and we will have it made. We plan on using this next year to do just that and celebrate with you guys in New Orleans. K.B./e-mail

"Last year I wrote a fairly critical appraisal of the San Diego Gathering. So in fairness I feel compelled to write and tell you how great the Orlando Gathering was. Granted, the weather coorperated, unlike in San Diego. But in general I found the spirit of the gathering to be overwhelmingly open, friendly, and fun. I made new friends and felt very much a part of the great vibe. Everything clicked, everyone was on the same wavelength, and the events were wonderfully organized. Hats off to everyone involved.. Perhaps in New Orleans I'll actually get laid. Third time is the charm, they say. N.L./Chicago"

"The Gathering. What a great experience, event, happening, and a whole lot more. I can't thank you enough for the great time I had in Orlando. It was one of the great times of my life. Although I have been to a few gay events, I have never been with so many real men, and nice too. As with any gatherng of people, there is a lot fo work that goes on behind the scenes and the success of the weekend is a tribute to you and your committees. I especially enjoyed the awards dinner as the people that were recognized deserved the applause. Just the tone of conversation says that folks were having a great time. As one of the 'virgins,' the whole four days really moved me. There were so many wonderful men that I met and had great conversations and just enjoyed the hell out of the whole thing. NEW JERSEY MAC"

"Papa Bear again did a wonderful job in his presentation for grief recovery. it was my second visit to it, but I still got a lot out of it. Again, I would suggest that all the couples should go even if there is no immediate thought of loss. It's for all, not only the younger who lose their partners, but sometimes the younger go first. It's not going to stop the grief, but it will help to prepare them for what eventually comes to us all. Also, to the Silver Simba group, I would suggest if they have not gotten in touch with Papa Bear, to do so. He had some good material to pass out that will help when we get called on to contact someone. I know John K. was pressed for time in his workshop for the internet beginners because of getting on-line. He did a good job, but he will have to practice talking down to dummies like me. I did get a lot out of the workshop because I've had a computer now for a year. But I worry about the guys who know less than I. BIG EDDIE did a great and entertaining presentation on the Ragtime Era. I'm an old fogy but don't go back quite that far. But the music was still popular while I was growing up, and I could have listened to the ragtime piano playing for a long time. I didn't get to any of the other workshops, so no opinion. I met a wonderful person who recently lost his partner of 18 years, and we spent some time together, and that is all I will say on that subject. But whoever came up with the idea of the balloons in remembrance of lost loved ones, I thank you. With the music and the balloons going up, I think I became very emotional for about five minutes and then thoughts of the good times came flooding back. So with that I will say thank you for a great gathering. GOLFER/St. Petersburg

"I felt compelled to write and let you

know how much I enjoyed the 1999 Gathering. It was not my first, but it was the first that I had attended without my partner of fourteen years. He is 25 years my senior and his infirmities prevented his traveling such a distance. Too, he requires constant supervision. The Gathering gave me an opportunity to temporarily shirk my responsibilities and take a vacation. Little did I realize it would be so therapeutic. I have always been attracted to older gentlemen and at the age of 46 came to realize that there were also older and younger gentlemen that were attracted to this shy, homely child. What a boost it was to the ego. I determined that I would try to overcome the shyness and was pleasantly surprised to discover that it was quite easy when surrounded by such a multitude of gorgeous and friendly gentlemen. I had some friends from Florida that I had met during one of the previous gatherings who had also previously been our house guests a couple of times. They must have known all of the attendees from Florida and graciously introduced them all. I also wanted to let you know that a bartender at Scuba Joe's, a housekeeper at the Convention Center, and two bartenders in the lobby commented on how much they had enjoyed 'our group.' The bartenders in the lobby said that they just wanted to let us know what a great bunch of guys we were, that they had enjoyed being of service, and that we had certainly 'paid some bills for them with our generosity.' Again, thank you for providing an opportunity for meeting so many exceptional- and 'special' individuals. W.A./South Carolina

"Bill and I were at the Gathering and thought it was wonderful, so very well organized, and skillfully handled. I remarked to Bill several times how everyone seemed to be so happy. We have only been to two Gatherings ('97 and '99) and hope to make the one next year in New Orleans. But, as I told Bill, there will not be another more significant and wonderful to me than '99 in Orlando. There was doubt that I would be here to make it, when I was diagnosed with cancer of the throat (epiglotis and larynx), late last August. Before starting radiation treatments, a feeder tube was implanted in my stomach so I could be fed (I couldn't swallow). After several weeks of radiation treatments, 5 days a week, I was told I was free of the cancer. It wasn't until April, 1999, that I felt it safe to confirm hotel reservations. We arrived at the Radisson May 26th around 2:00 pm. Would you believe we were sitting in a doctor's office at 4:00 pm while he wrote me a prescription for an antibiotic and salve for swollen and infected lower gums from new dentures? Well, at least it gave me the chance to go on a liquid diet for a few days. Thanks to you both, the staff, and other delegates. The '99 Gathering was the greatest! B and J/e-mail

"WOW!! What a delightful time for me. I was very pleased with the entire time I spent in the company of so many GENTLEMEN. Everyone was nice to me. I did not meet anyone who was grouchy or disagreeable. It was so nice to walk around and talk to another man about anything I wanted to and not have to worry about what someone else might think or say or how they would look at me. You see, I am not completely 'Out' yet. The seminars/lectures I attended were very informative and helpful for me. I especially enjoyed the Prostate one, since I have some problems with that. Father McNeill's talk on Sunday just really brought out the feeling I have about loving another man and knowing that it is okay. I liked the sales booths so much I bought something from at least three of them. The bear is sitting on the head of my waterbed now. The night we released the balloons in memory of our departed ones was extremely emotional for me. There were three men who came to me and embraced me to comfort me. I do not know their names, but I have said a prayer for them many times since then. I thank you very much for sponsoring this event. It is the highlight of my year. I will remember it for a very long time." J.V./ e-mail

"I have been subscribing for several years and look forward to receiving each new issue. It has been one of the things that have helped me through recent times, as I lost a lover last year to cancer and an ex-lover almost passed away four days later of a massive stroke. Last year was very rough and CR made it easier for me through some of the stories and pictures that you included. The memorial service on Sunday night at the Gathering was very touching for me, as it appeared for others also, and helped me a lot. This year also included my first attendance at the Gathering and from my experience of the five days that I was there, I will plan on attending all future gatherings that are possible. I really enjoyed meeting you at the gathering and also the many models and other very nice people that were attending. It was truly an event to remember. I made several new friends and intend on maintaining the friendships that were a result of the Gathering. The staff and volunteers were not only helpful and courteous, but very nice looking. I am already looking forward to New Orleans next year. If you need a contact person in Arkansas, let me know and I would be happy to help in any way possible. You have done so much in helping people like me realize that there are lots of others like us. I truly admire you for everything you have done with the magazine." ARKANSAS MIKE

So many of my ideas bomb (CRonus, CR Classics, VIP Seating, wrist bands, Las Vegas-type dinner/cocktail shows, Swan Videos, exclusive use contracts, etc.) that I am rather stunned when an idea evolves into something wonderful. The Remembrance Ceremony on Sunday night at the Gathering was at first envisioned as a few guys burning candles in silence in honor of our departed loved ones. Well, the hotel didn't like the idea, and we couldn't figure out how to light all those candles. Then I remembered Peter, an old friend from our Long Beach roots, who came to a small New Years Eve dinner party with some helium-filled balloons. He said that at the stroke of midnight every New Years Eve, he would release a balloon in honor of his departed partner. Four of us released balloons that night, and we all wept together. After the banquet Sunday night in Orlando, KEN DRAY sang his heart out to "I'll Be Seeing You," and over 300 of us released balloons,

watching in amazement as the mass of color rose along the side of the north tower. The balloons swirled around the top and became luminescent in the tower spotlights, then they disappeared high over Universal Studios. Hundreds of men stood in the darkness weeping, consoling. You could almost feel a sense of mass catharsis. To some, it actually brought some closure. For sure, it moved everyone there. We'll figure out a way to do it in New Orleans as well. Pat

THE GIVING . . .

"Before I get too deep into this letter, I must apologize for the length. I have much to say, so bear with me. First I want to inform you that I arrived home safe and sound, as did my fellow senior travel companions. My entire trip tallied over 5,100 miles, covering 13 states. It was worth every mile I drove to see the smiles on their faces and hear the talk of not being able to wait until New Orleans next year. I am sure that CR has touched their lives just as it did mine. I'm sure you know my story, but if you don't mind, I'd like to tell it again. I heard about CR back in the late 80s, shortly after hearing about Girth & Mirth, the club for chubby men and their admirers. One day, while at a bar talking to a senior man, he mentioned CR to me. For some reason or another, I never took him seriously enough to search out the magazine until the early 90s, 1993 to be exact. To this day, I often times wonder what took me so long to catch on. Needless to say, I have been reading the magazine ever since. I remember writing to you, telling you how glad I was to see someone doing something positive for our senior gay community, and although I am very much attracted to this type of man I was certain I would NEVER fall in love again. In your return response you told me to never say 'never.' But I told you that there were three things I was sure that I could say never to: I will never drink, never do drugs, and never fall in love again. My first convention was 1995 in Orlando. As most first-timers, one never knows what to expect. At that time I was very shy, so I did a lot of observing. What I saw was and is to this day the most beautiful thing I had ever laid eyes on. All of these young men with their senior lovers caring for them and sharing the wonderful experiences of life and love together. I remember going back to my room all filled with emotions. That night I shed a few tears thinking that I am no better or no worse than these young men. Why are they more fortunate than I to have someone to cherish? That's when I realized that I had far too much love to give and for the previous two years shutting my heart up, not letting anyone close to me, was slowly eating me away inside. Now although I have yet to find that special senior man who will be willing to let me care for him in his golden years, I understand that when it comes to love, I can never give up. I can never say never again. For I know he is out there waiting for me. You have changed my life and saved me from certain destruction, and for this it is I who should be grateful and I am. I would like to send special thanks to the following:

1. MANRIDER, for introducing me to the CR family (and no, John, I will never give you a horsey ride) 2. DON CHARLES and TINY, for your encouragement through those 16-20 hour days, earning enough money for the trip. 3. DON D., helping me set up the hotel room after you saw my exhaustion. 4. JOHN P., for being my utility man and keeping the Mountain Dew flowing while I drove. 5. DADDY BIG BALLS, for the back scratches and back rubs. 6. CLARENCE S., encouraging me while I drove throughout the night, holding my hand, letting me know it was going to be all right. 7. ULTIMATE DADDY, my navigator, for staying up with me 45 out of the 60 hours I was awake, singing songs, telling stories and jokes, whatever it took to keep me alert. 8. And especially to Pat, Bruce and the mysterious donor, for the award bestowed upon me at the Gathering.

I know you keep saying it, Pat, but I am no angel. I am just like any other man who attends the Gatherings or picks up the magazine. We all see your vision, and we all believe in your dream! Much love from me to you and to the rest of the CR Family. David Thompson (THE TONGUE)

AND THE DISTURBED

"It was never our attempt to 'crash' your party. We have no interest in attending or paying for your little workshops, 'Award Winning Slop Through Banquets,' or your feeding frenzy Monday brunch. We simply [reserved a room at Radisson] to not only sit by the pool and enjoy some company of friends we know, but also to help you in your endeavor to fill the hotel and so you would not have to pay for rooms that were not rented. . . . We personally have many friends from Florida that are registered at the Twin Towers and have not paid CRPI [any] money. [To deny entry of non-delegates into the pool] is pure, unadulterated, flagrant, discrimination. . . . We have no intention of attending your orgy this year but LOOK OUT, New Orleans, here we come. We don't have to stay at your hotel, your Eminence, to have a good time in New Orleans. Oh, unless you can orchestrate the entire French Quarter into your oppression. The day will come when those who pay homage to your Eminence will find out what a real prick you really are. One of your past ass kissers, Roy/Sarasota"

"Nice party, but when are you going to wise up about security? I've been to 4 gatherings now, and I have never paid to get in. Orlando was the easiest yet. We all hung out at the lobby bar and made 'raids' into the 'secure' areas. I was with the two other guys who you called security on. You have no idea how close you came to getting punched out by my buddy. No problem though, the house dicks disappeared and we just went out again. I was 'caught' 7 times. I even talked to one of the house security guys about why I couldn't use the pool. He thought it was shitty too. See you in New Orleans, you dumb fucks. Tony D./via e-mail

"All you think about is profit. I couldn't watch hot old men in the pool without paying your stupid day fee? You don't even change your website enough for anyone to enjoy it, and you have to buy a mag to see nude men. Why pay when you can git it free on the internet.?" Kyle Bear/e-mail

THE EDITOR'S TWO CENTS WORTH

1. There was talk about a couple of guys urging delegates not to stay in the Radisson, but very few changed their plans.

2. A bunch of guys (see Roy's message above) vowed to stay at the Radisson but not register with CR (some delinquents can't seem to evolve out of the fart-lighting, party-crashing phase), but most bought day passes when they found they couldn't use the pool.

3. The same 10 to 15 non-delegates cancelled their hotel reservations at the last minute, just as they have done in "protest" for three years running.

4. Entire cliques sat out '99, ostensibly because it wasn't IN to attend. "Been there, done that, Dahling." Either that or they didn't get permission from the mother hen.

5. The hotel was anonymously warned about a sex orgy sponsored by two video producers who wanted to nail down some more spunk shots for pending commercial video releases—that and

6. they were extremely freaked out about another anonymous threat of "protest pickets, TV cameras, and possible violence." Same source? The threat of picket violence was repeated on the Silver Fox List by someone claiming to be from Ft. Lauderdale (the message originated from Palm Springs).

The above bullshit happens every year and we've learned to live with it, but knowing from experience that freaked out hotels are not fun to work with, we defused the orgy plan by making sure the videographers knew the jig was up. Next thing we knew, Maximum Density's Ritch Bergland cancelled his hotel reservations, and the other new video outfit opted for a reception to introduce the footage they already had (which ain't bad, by the way!).

The vandalism of people like Tony D and Roy/Sarasota—not to mention the Bicoastal Rumorettes—don't cause that much damage because the are usually outside looking in and not very influential. Yes, we suffered an attendance shortfall, but it was primarily due to the hotel's failure to perform in accordance with our contract in the areas of security and reservations. They are threatening to sue for the balance we withheld from their final invoice, along with a steep penalty for our cancellation of 2001, PLUS an unstated amount for libel (I described on our website how they had evicted one of our delegates, who complained of chest pains, and who we found lying on his back outside the hotel entrance, begging for his heart medication, begging for an ambulance, and telling us how hotel security had roughed him up). CRPI, on the other hand will file a breach of contract counter suit against Radisson if we are forced into litigation. No donations, please. Our Orlando attorney will work on contingency.

We are at fault in the most dubious sense of the word: we trusted Radisson to live up to a specially worded contract designed to protect and aid a small corporation to the degree that it could acquire something only the big corporations usually get: exclusive use of facilities. Provisions were made for special marketing assistance, superior reservations resources, and special security considerations. Everything was going great until the hotel changed hands again and replaced the contract's authors with managers in dire need of remedial English, Business and Logic courses. We'll sign another "Exclusive Use" contract when hell freezes over.

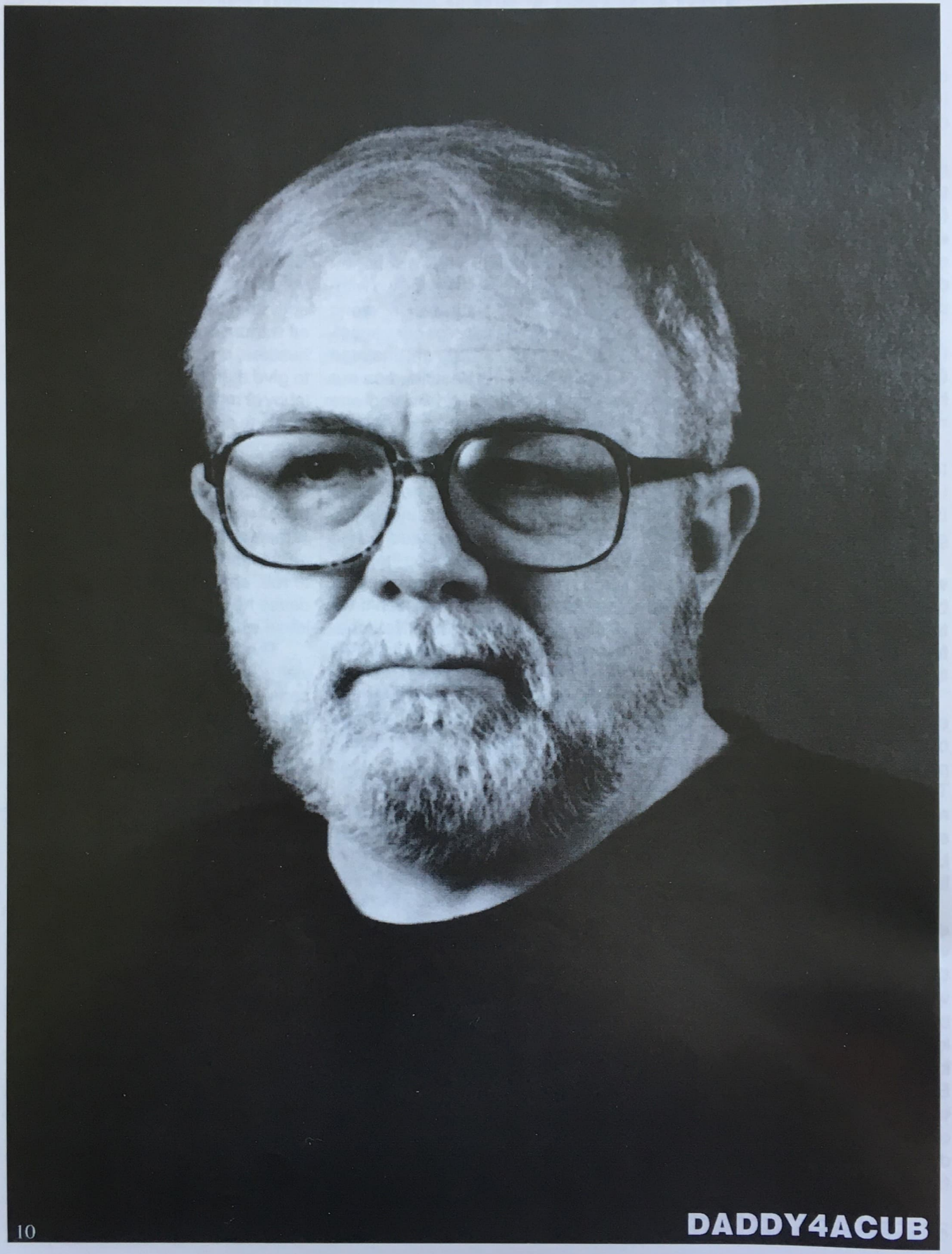
New Orleans is a whole different ballgame. If anyone truly considers that paying for a Gathering medallion is "kissing my ass," then that loser should by all means protest by lurking in the lobby with all the other crashers: groupies, hustlers and perhaps a psycho or two—all hoping that someone with a medallion will take them up to a room. Uh huh ... and a Mardi Gras-wise, state-of-the-art security department is just gonna let men without medallions or keys loiter on their premises?

Most CR delegates acknowledge that the Gatherings are better off without boycotters, crashers and hustlers, and they won't be inclined to give a groupie hanging out in the lobby or mens' rooms the time of day, let alone a roll in the hay. A man with a medallion has paid to get in, just like you. He has invested serious time and money in a vacation he hopes will enrich his life, just like you. A man with a medallion won't have an ulterior motive. He is not going to rob, arrest, or slit your throat, because he's in our data base and we know who he is.

The term "security" doesn't sit well with a lot of guys for various reasons. Some delegates have the mistaken idea that CR's contract security is in place to make sure delegates don't get out of line. Not true. We provide security for the protection of our delegates from outsiders and from the occasional sociopath that gets on the inside. Our professional security in New Orleans will be monitoring entrances and hallways, not ballrooms. Moreover, they will be bouncers, not uniformed security guards.

Crashers had a lot of fun the previous three times in Orlando and the last two times in San Diego. They are no doubt gearing up for New Orleans with gleeful confidence. I shudder when I think of all the lost income.

My New Orleans security contractor says that I should shudder no longer.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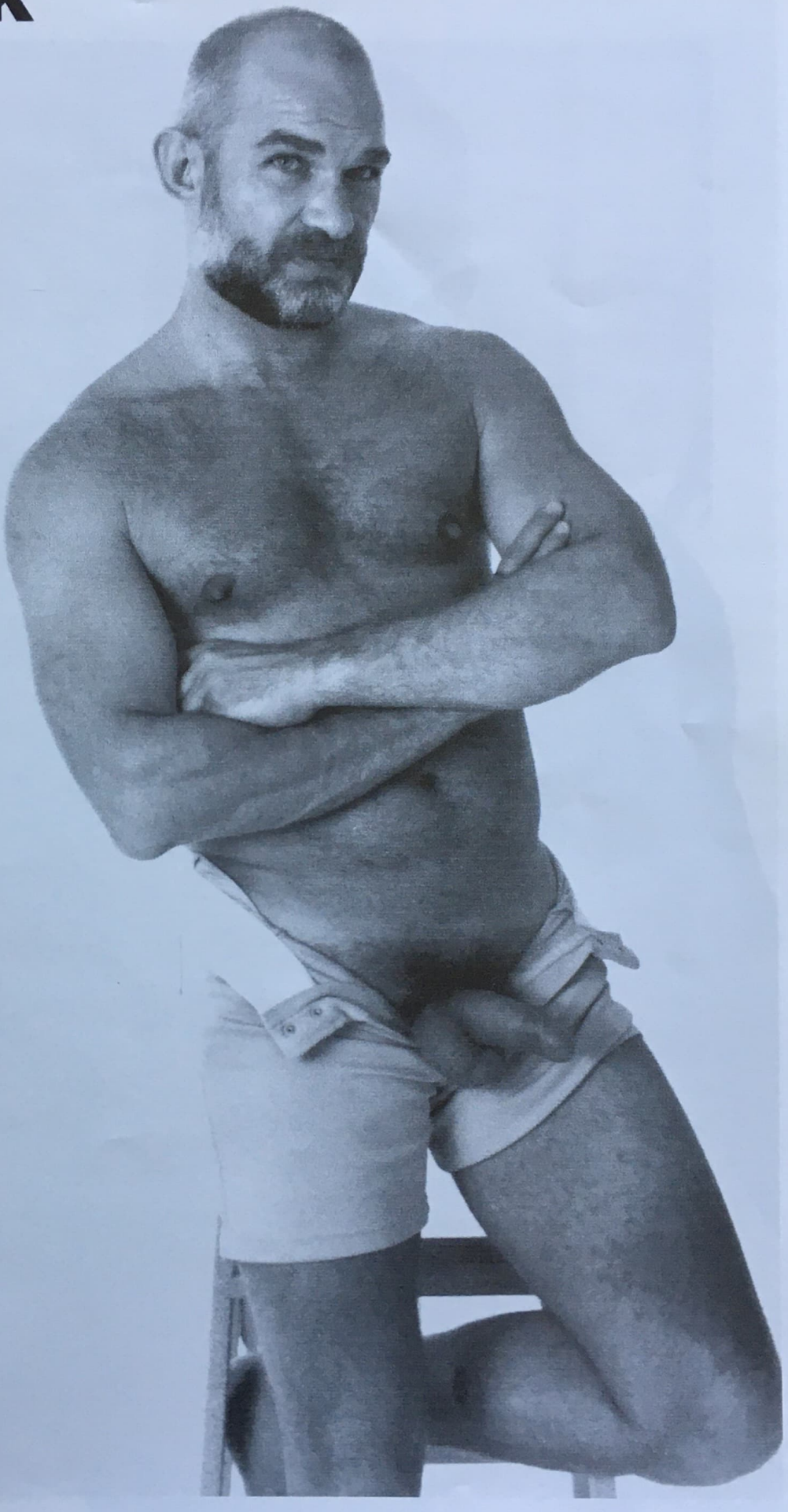

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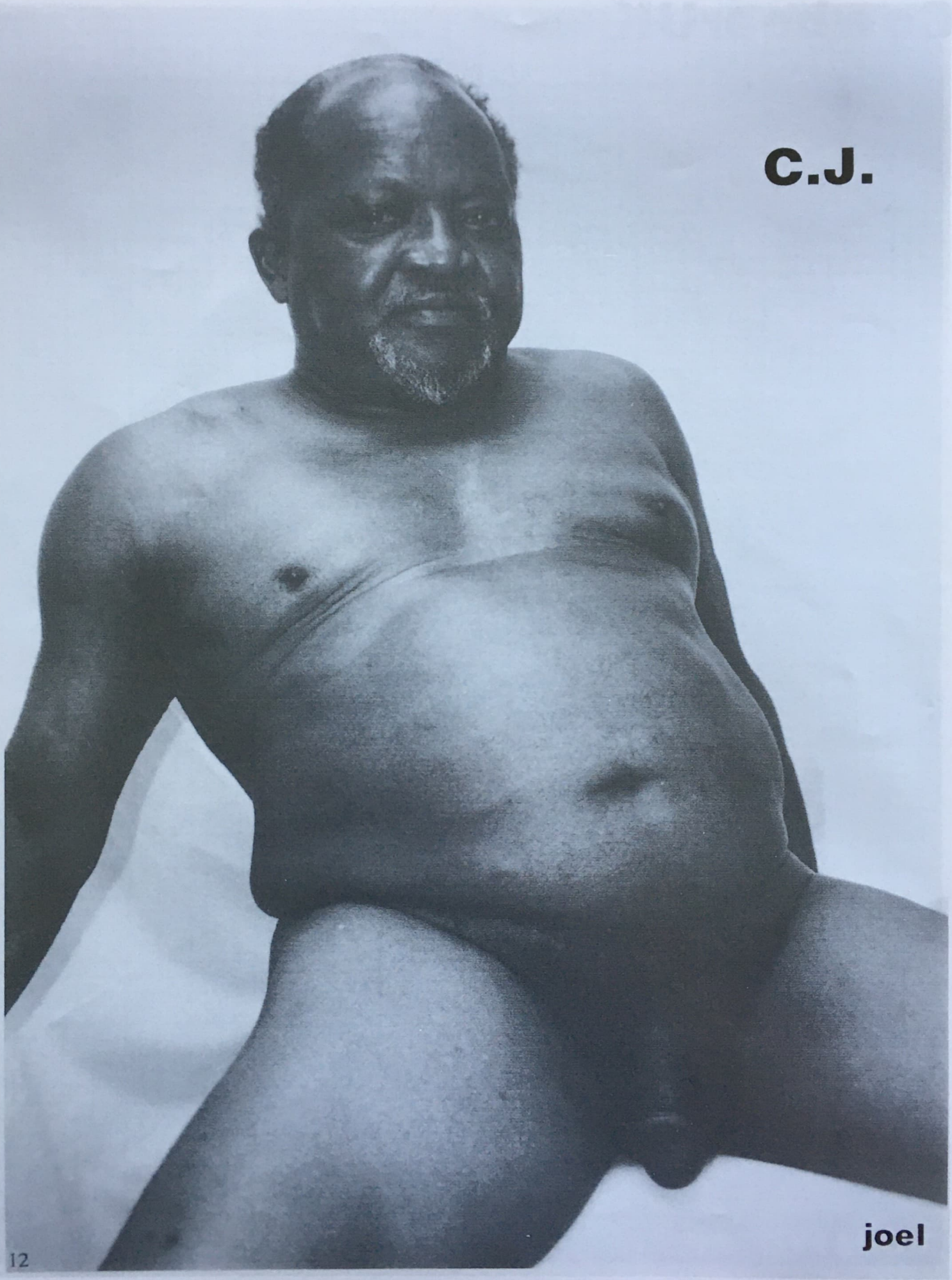
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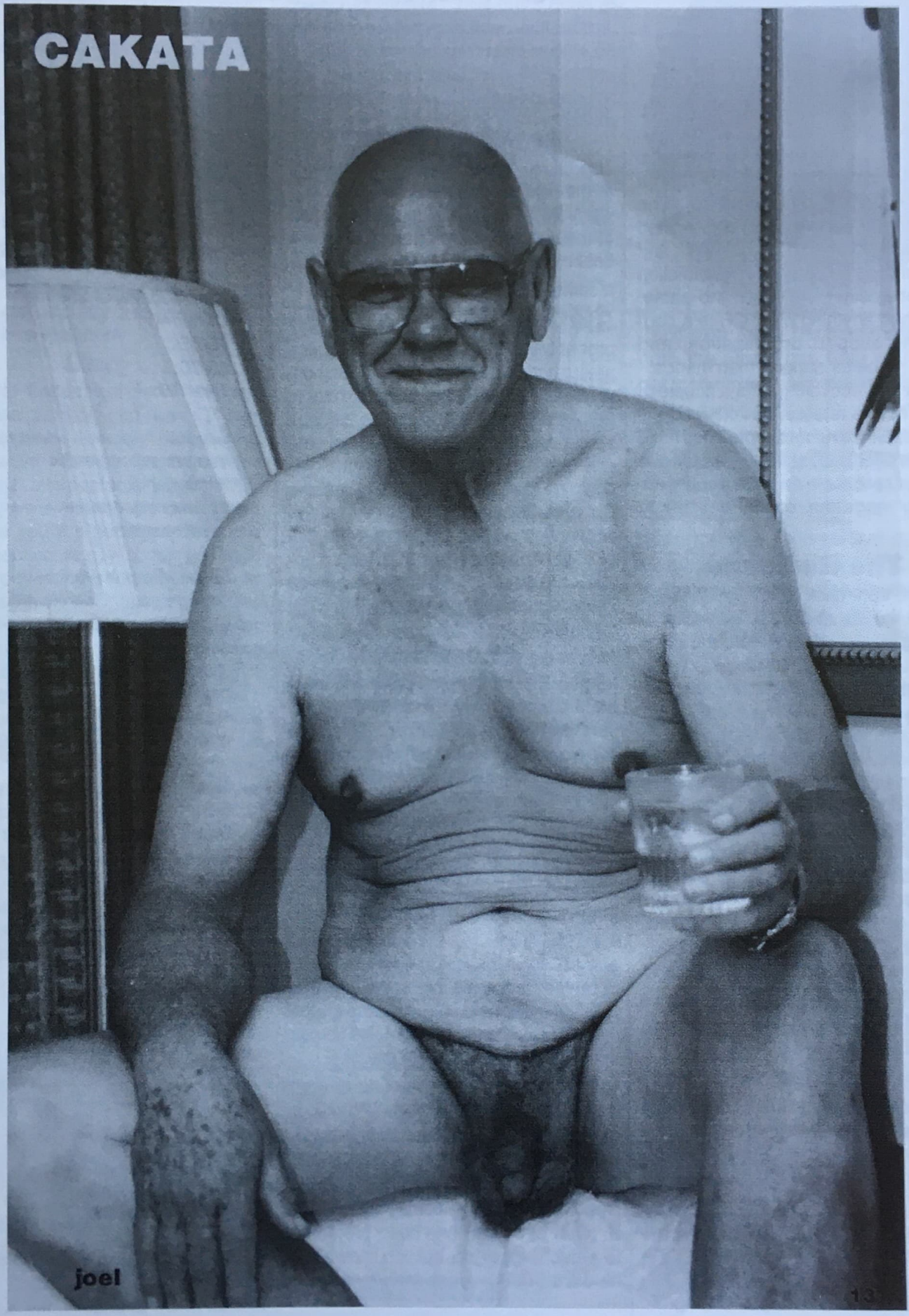
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joel

STUFF

Let's see, where to start. Okay, you can see that the magazine has changed somewhat. Actually it's changed quite a bit. Same number of color pages,but 16 more black and white pages. The increase will be filled with a classified ad expansion and additional black and white photography. The level of fiction and non-fiction will remain the same. More than anything else, CR is a contact and support organization, and there's no better support than friends.

We are recovering from a couple of SCUD missle attacks, but our wounds will heal. Since rumors sometimes have adverse effects on sales, we would like to fill our readers in on what happened. It's your magazine, so you deserve to know.

The Radisson

bellmen, front desk clerks, bartenders, waiters, maids and other convention/ catering service personnel did a magnificent job and helped us pull off the best gathering ever in terms of food quality and service. On the other hand, Radisson's top management, security and reservations personnel blew it big time and breached the contract. Their final billing is offset by our backcharge for damages, so we probably have a stalemate thus far. As we speak, I can hear little mice-like footsteps as their lawyers check out our assets and credit rating. I don't think they will be impressed. "No, my dear, I do NOT believe that you are with Dunn and Bradstreet and that you just want to update my credit history."

And then there is our

distributor,

who was supposed to have set us up in every gay book store in the world. As we stare blankly at his latest check—over 60 days late and boldly stamped

NSF

—it occurs to us that we probably will never see the $21,000 he owes us. Will we file suit against him? Of course not. He has no assets! Are you paying attention, Radisson?

Okay, so now what happens to

2001?

Since Radisson doesn't want us back, we have been reading over the results of the survey we took at the gathering. Lots of guys expressed great interest in a combination

gathering and cruise,

probably in Ft. Lauderdale. Since there are no hotels in Ft. Lauderdale with convention facilities large enough to handle us, we will do it out of the convention center and get blocks of rooms in several hotels at various price ranges We could do our D.J. Dancing, Workshops, Cabaret, Receptions, and Dinner at the convention center and have a handful of ongoing pool parties at adjacent hotels. We could then have a staggered mass tour of local gay and gay-friendly businesses such as

Chardees,

topped off with a beach party and steel band entertainment. That would be the land part of the convention. A medallion would get you into all functions, and payment would be made to CR.

The sea portion would be payable to a travel agent who has yet to be determined. We envision a three-day cruise out of Ft. Lauderdale, likewise undetermined. Everyone would be on their own, payment- and reservation-wise, but we would stil act as a group and ask for concessions (private cocktail parties, separate dinner seating, etc) for all of us instead of free cabins for the organizers. The travel agent that comes up with the best plan gets the job.

And speaking of

surveys,

here are the very interesting results from our survey in Orlando. It was conducted by our Food and Beverage Director for New Orleans, professional caterer Tony S. (Carl Lawrence has been promoted to a much bigger job, but you know Carl: he wants BOTH jobs), who had some very interesting things to say about the surveying itself. Most delegates were very coorperative as he sought out guys to talk to. Some, however, were downright hostile. "I'm trying to CRUISE!" growled some, obviously part of the 17% who came only to look for a lot of sex.

Here are the figures based on the random interview of 259 men:

Under 40:	16%
40-55:	25%
55-70:	35%
Over 70:	24%
Single:	57%
In a sexually open relationship:	27%
In a monogamous relationship:	16%
Older who prefers younger:	23%
Older who prefers older:	27%
Younger who prefers older:	25%
No generational preference:	25%
Came looking to have a lot of sex:	17%
Came hoping to find a mate:	7%
Came seeking new friends:	29%
Came just to have a good time:	47%
Planning to attend New Orleans:	71%
Not planning to attend:	10%
Don't know yet::	19%
Would attend a 2001 gathering/crise in Ft. Lauderdale:	67%
Would not attend:	33%

There were a lot more questions we wanted to ask, but we didn't want to overdo it Unfortunately, the survey on

the Free 2000 Gathering drawing tickets were not tabulated and were accidentally thrown away. We therefore still have no idea how many of our customers are on-line. We invited Apple to demonstrate their iMac at the Orlando Expo, buy we never heard from them. Maybe we can get someone to man a booth in New Orleans and demonstrate the easiest and most economical way to get on the internet.

Our decision to

discontinue book store sales

has brought us pretty diverse reactions. Here is an e-mail from

Gary

who says: "Because of discretion, there is no possible way I can have CR sent to my residency. I couldn't believe what I was reading when you guys advised a "surrogate" interceptor for such mailing. Do you guys even understand the inconvenience you are putting us through? Not to mention we now should just waltz out and pay monthly for a P.O. Box. As mentioned in my last inquiry, I have been a DEVOUT reader and admirer of your magazine, but now, I think this will put a damper on my preferences. I apologize for being blunt, but I am going to seriously consider switching my business over to BULK MALE. I don't think you really understand how you now excluded probably half of your followers because of this switch to a "mail only" type of ethic. I would have hoped that things would have worked out, but I guess it is too late. Thank you for your services. Gary/Chicago."

Our response: Apology accepted for your bluntness. And this from

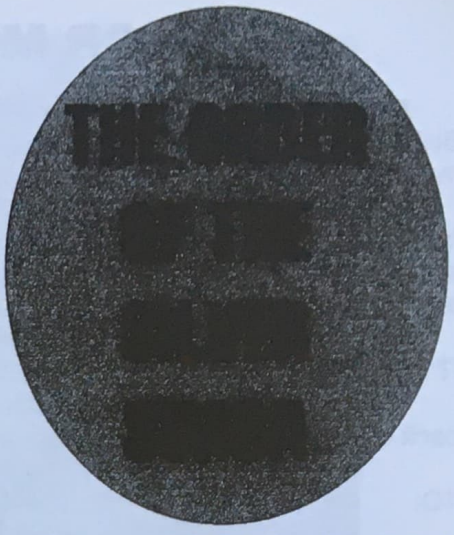
Tyrone

who says: "What took you so long to wise up about distributing your magazine? Sheesh! I used to work for one of the biggest gay book stores in the country as well as one of the top distributors, so I know a few things. Excuse me as I 'kill you softly with my words.' You sign a long-term contract with some guy with a telephone and a bunch of adult mag contacts. He's straight, but can smell the gay dollar, so he goes after and lands a handful of 'alternative gay mags' like CR, BEAR and BULK MALE. Years pass and your press run shrinks. This guy's good at getting you into roadside adult stores, but little else. You sell to him at 60% off cover price, but less than 45% of the copies sell. For a 5,000 copy distributor draw, you get paid a paltry seven grand—after about five or six months if you're lucky. It doesn't take you long to see that this seemingly large sum of money doesn't begin to cover the original costs ($1,000 freight costs, $6,000 allocated printing costs, not to mention boxes and supplies). Then you see the 3,000 or so copies that are destroyed (yeah, right), copies that never made it to the gay stores which routinely sell out of CR in three days. How many times have you been raped by distributors? Twice now? Hey, if someone wants to read CR badly enough, they will find a way. With the advent of the internet and the glut of ripped-off photography, you AND the book stores have lost the impulsive buyer who just wants to look at dirty pictures. You'll get a lot of flak from those guys, but remember: those who buy CR regularly in a book store are your distributor's customer's customers, not yours. CR gets no cut of that pie unless the distributor is selling 20,000 copies. Your customer is the book store buyer who either subscribes, buys some back issues, or attends a gathering. The married guys and deeply closeted guys will no doubt go through a crisis for awhile. But believe me, they will find a way. They have to trust someone, so it might as well be you. Hang in there, Pat. Tyrone/Baltimore."

Did you get a

bad copy of CR 90?

Our printer's bindery subcontractor packed about 50 bad copies of CR 90 instead of throwing them away. Naturally we didn't catch them, so about 50 bad copies were mailed out with missing and duplicate pages. So far, only about 40 readers have contacted us, so we assume that the others are just shy. Please contact us. You deserve nothing less than the best product we can manufacture.



If you need bereavement support, the Order can help you if you get in touch with us. You do not have to be a subscriber or customer of CRPI, nor do you have to be a member of the Order of the Silver Simba. The simple act of reaching out entitles you to our help. We cannot refer you to a professional counselor or clergyman, but we will put you in touch with other men in your area who have suffered the same as you and survived. It is our sincere belief that benevolent contact with those who have walked in your shoes can provide a valid and effective alternative or supplement to professional therapies.

If you wish to join the Order and donate spiritual support for a brother suffering through grief, send your name, address, telephone number, and a statement that you would like to offer your time and compassion to a grieving brother in your area. Also state if you: a) have lost a mate, b) are losing a mate, c) are just a compassionate soul wanting to help.

Your identity will never be divulged, either by list or referral. You will be contacted only by CR if your help is needed, and you will be supplied a contact.

Write: CR, P.O. Box 2589, Victorville, CA 92393, or call (toll-free voice mail) (888) 227-2935 within the U.S. or (760) 868-6371 outside U.S. E-mail: crpi@aol.com

BE A CR MODEL AND CHANGE YOUR LIFE

At CR we don't believe in the words "ugly" or "unattractive." We insist that no one is too fat or too skinny. Too tall? Bull shit! Too short? Our most popular models are short and chubby. And don't EVER say you're too old. Not for THIS magazine!

If you are 18 or over and want to become a CR model, send a sharply focused, well-contrasted, HIGH QUALITY 35 mm color or black and white photo of yourself. Do not send marginal snapshots; Polaroids; sex shots with obvious or simulated penetration or masturbation; photos with half your head or penis missing; portraits of yourself standing too far away; or prints with spots, lines, or ink marks that shouldn't be there.

Photos are not returned unless we are requested to do otherwise. If you want your photograph returned, SEND FOR IT AFTER IT IS PUBLISHED AND PROVIDE AN SASE.

The following form is required in order to have your photograph(s) featured in CR. Carefully write your name on the back of each submitted photograph and blot so that ink does not get on front of photo.

TO: CHIRON RISING PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX 2589
VICTORVILLE, CA 92393

FROM: _____

This is to certify that I am the owner of the publication rights to and the model featured in the photography enclosed herein. I assign one-time rights of publication to Chiron Rising Publications, Inc. It is understood that CRPI shall retain the copyright to such photography for a period of one year from the date of publication in CR, and model agrees not to allow the publication of same elsewhere during that period. I further certify that I am at least 18 years of age, having been born on _____, 19 ____. it is understood that my photography may have to be cropped to suit the needs of the publisher.

I hereby waive any compensation in return for the publication rights to subject photography.

I request that the name of _____ be published as the name of the model, in lieu of my real name. The photographer's name should be designated as _____.

The following information should be used in any biographical sketch accompanying my photography:

Age: _____: Height: _____: Weight _____: Area of Residence: _____.

Likes: _____.

Looking for: _____.

I do _____ do not _____ authorize the use of my photograph on the front cover of CR.

I am currently SINGLE _____/ in a SEXUALLY OPEN SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIP _____/ in a MONOGAMOUS SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIP _____.

I certify that I have not signed a release with any other magazine for publication of THIS photography within the past year. I further certify that I will not authorize publication of THIS photography in any other magazine until same is published in CR. I promise to answer all letters forwarded to me as a result of my photo's publication and fully understand that my photography will be published as space is available and that no timetable is implied or promised.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

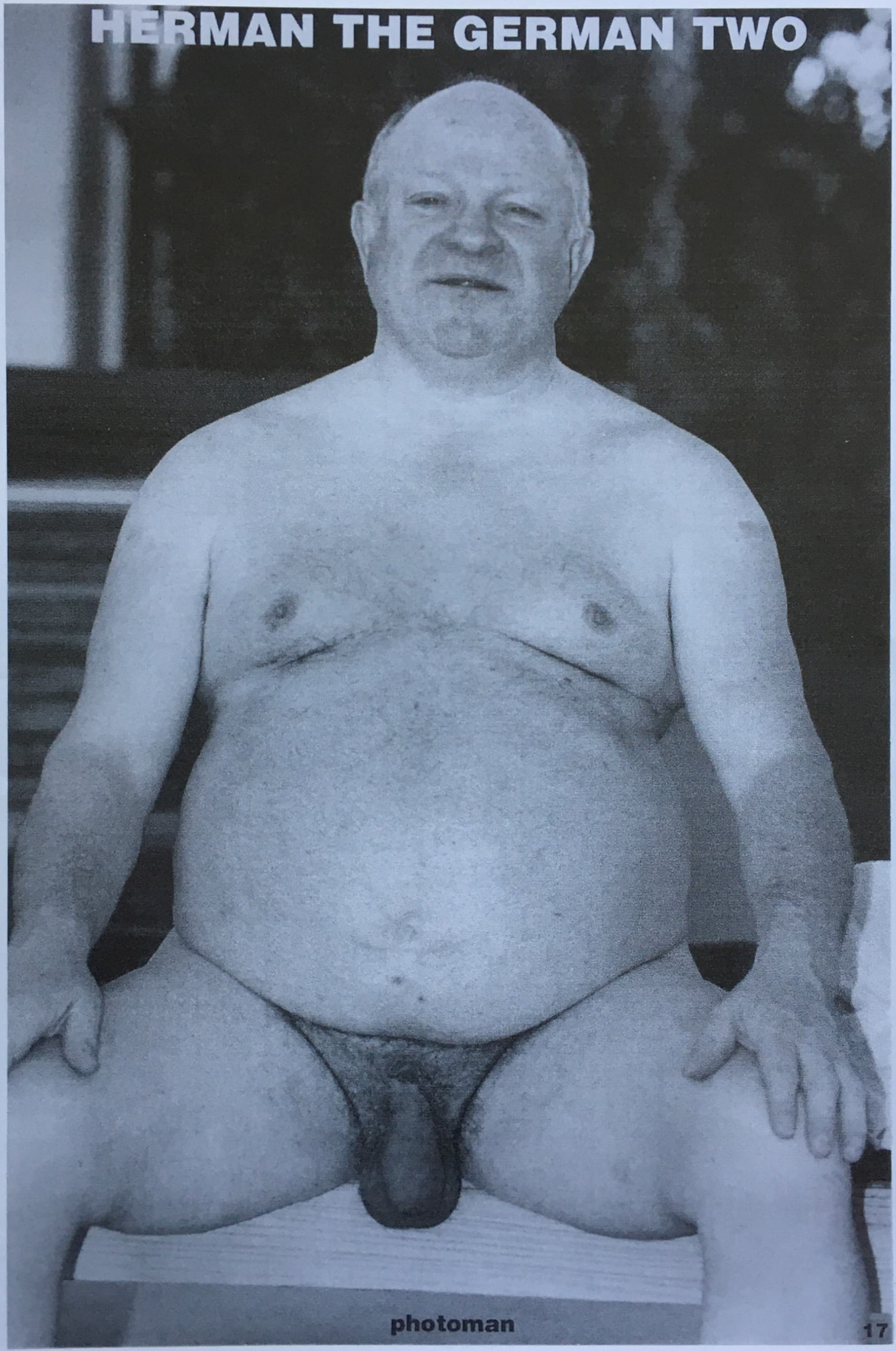
City/State/Zip: _____

Date: _____

Telephone number: (_____) _____

NOTE: SUBMIT PHOTOGRAPHY AND THIS RELEASE FORM, PROPERLY COMPLETED AND SIGNED TO CRPI.

HERMAN THE GERMAN TWO



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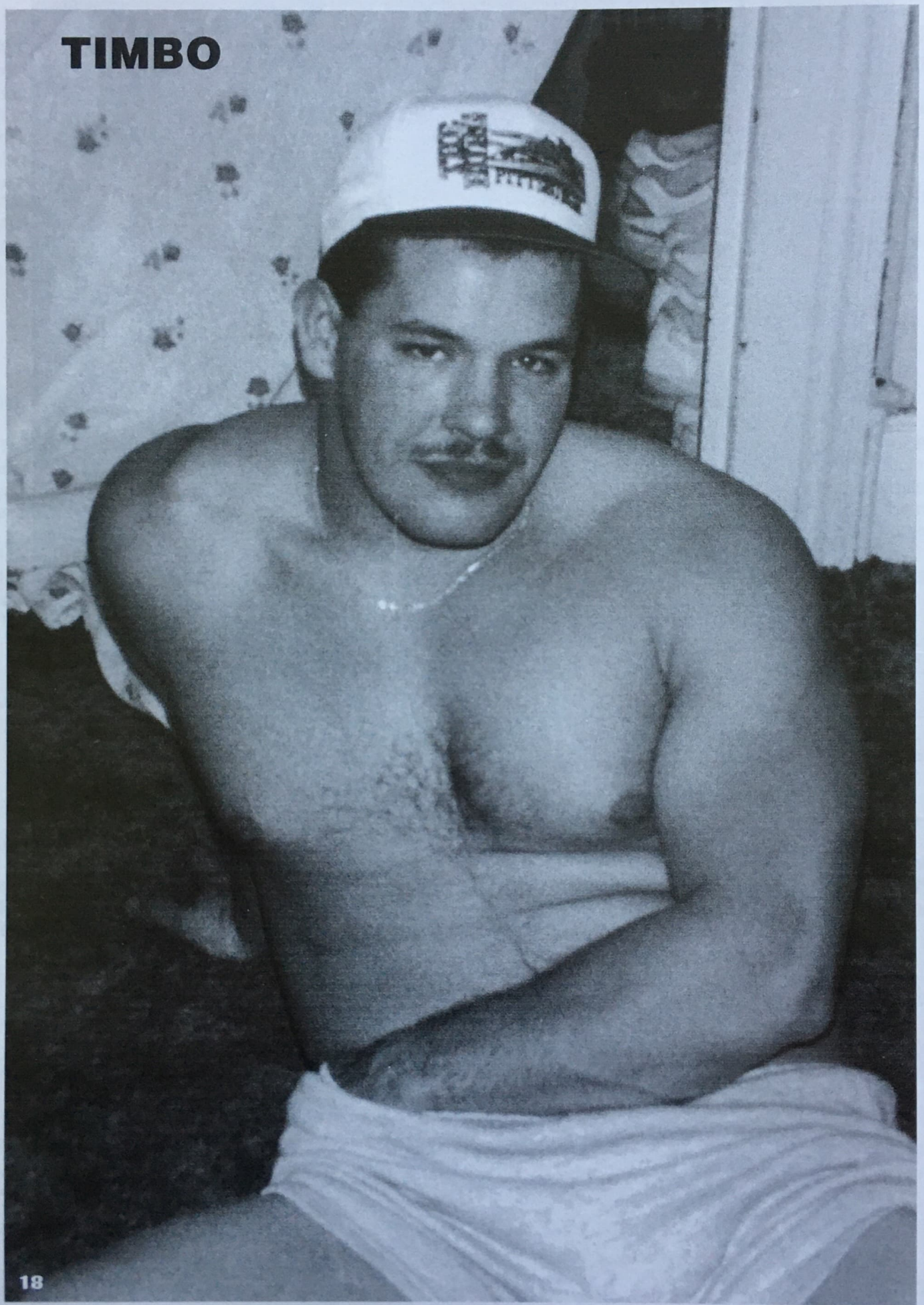

BIG LION

THE CONTACT NETWORK

ARIZONA

(V) ARIZONA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 62, 6 ft., 250#, HIV negative, looking for someone 30-60 for friendship and possible LTR, if compatible. Light drinker and smoker okay. No drugs. Looks and body not important, but heart and soul are. Your photo gets mine. Enjoy most forms of safe sex. **BAREKAT**

CALIFORNIA-NORTH

(V) NORTHERN CALIFORNIA/SOUTH SF BAY AREA: WM, 60s, 5'-11", 190#, seeks pen pals and good friends. Gladly exchange photos. Nonsmoker, nondrinker. Will answer all. **ALSJCAL**

CALIFORNIA-SOUTH

(95) LAGUNA BEACH/NATIONWIDE: Couple, open relationship, 59, 5'-9", 160#, hung, and 66, 5'-8", 185#, hairy, seek safe sex/friendship with energetic mature male(s), especially furry bears. We are HIV negative, discreet, oral, tit, and reciprocal. Peter/Jack, 1494 Glenneyre, Laguna Beach, CA 92651, or phone (949) 497-3548. See our photos in CR 85 and 87.

(92) LOS ANGELES/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 36, 5'-8", 200#, brown/hazel, seeks masculine, straight-acting, sensitive, honest GWM, 40-55, for friendship, possible relationship. Rugged/hairy chest preferred. Write: RGD, 13801 Oxnard St. #211, Van Nuys, CA 91401. If possible, enclose photo.

(V2) SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, single, 60, 5'-11", 178#, reddish/brown hair, blue eyes, clean cut, HIV negative, easy going and relaxed. I have a very unusual life-style and occupation. I am straight acting, do not smoke, drink or get involved in drugs. I am very discreet and have a great sense of humor. I love holding, kissing, cuddling and sex often. I am well-endowed and cut, typical of my English ancestry. Seeking monogamous long-term relationship with a sincere, compatible, younger, fun-loving, romantic partner. Please send me your serious, detailed letter with photos and your phone number for a prompt reply. Write: D.R.P., P.O. Box 10009, Burbank, CA 91510-0009.

(91) CALIFORNIA/NATIONWIDE/INTERNATIONAL: DWM, 55, 5'-8", 150#, uncut, trim, in-shape, HIV negative, well-travelled, cosmopolitan, retired, in search of successful, secure, healthy gentleman around 70+ till eternity, French active, for short visits, vacations or cruises. Your photo and telephone number will get prompt reply. Write: Mr. T., P.O. Box 3802, Santa Barbara, CA 93130. E-mail: bum_of_the_beach@prodigy.net

(V) BURBANK/SAN FERNANDO VALLEY: R.U. romantic? Telented? Playful? Like older men? This masculine couple in an open relationship seeks other horny men. We are talented, playful and enjoy similar. We are both hairy and fun. You be too. Fred: 67, 5'-10", 195#, experienced, hairy, cut. Gene: 78, 5'-7", 155#, hairy, beard, cut. Both HIV negative. You must be too. Write: Fred M., Box 6884, Burbank, CA 91510, or call (818) 762-3675, from 9 am to midnight, PST.

(V) CALIFORNIA/INTERNATIONAL: HGM, 43, 5'-6", 150#, athletic body, HIV negative, trim body, in good health. Interests in all the arts, music, travel. In an open relationship with GWM, 80, 170#, also in good health. Seeking friendships and more. Write: Juan B. Alvarado, 4243-A - 47th St., San Diego, CA 92115.

COLORADO

(93) AURORA: I'm a 55-year-old chubby male looking for younger guys, preferably black or Oriental. All races fine. I'm French active, active and Greek passive, passive, passive. Have big tits and nipples that love to be played with. Write: **AURORA**

(V) COLORADO/NATIONWIDE: If you are truly sincere and caring, please read on. This show biz veteran, 68 (yes, I can still perform!!!), and former university teacher, longs for a beautiful relationship with a younger, trim, masculine GM. I am an honest, kind, fun-loving gentleman. Relocating considered. Please write: **STILL PERFORMING**

CONNECTICUT

(91) FURRY BEARS, big and burly, sought by bearded GWM, 54, 160#, 6'-2". Call/write: Jon, P.O. Box 851, Danbury, CT 06813, (203) 794-0868.

FLORIDA

(91) CENTRAL FLORIDA: GWM, 44, 189#, 5'-7", HIV negative, seeking a mature WM as we start as friends first and grow together to share love and life as one in a long-term relationship. Interests vary. Relocation considered. **TROPHY**

(V) WEST PALM BEACH/NATIONWIDE/INTERNATIONAL: GWM, 73, 5'-10", 240#, clean-shaven, seeks 50-70 GWM for friendship, correspondence. Tall, muscular drink/drug-free nonsmoker a plus. Varied interests include swimming, cooking, nutrition, theater, travel. Loyalty and discretion assured. **KOOKABURRA**

(92) BEARMAKER: Couple seeks new friends and someone special to share our Deland home, our dogs and our love. Call (904) 740--0322. e-mail: bebuwipr@webtv.net

(92) ORLANDO/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 59, 5'-7", 160# seeks friendship and more. HIV negative, enjoy dining out, cooking, flea markets, other interests. Write: **DERF**

(V) ST. PETERSBURG: Hispanic (Venezuelan), masculine, clean-cut, 47, 5'-9", 160#, gymnast body, hung, edu-

cated, charming, in search of stocky, burly seniors over 60 to exchange sensual letters, laughs, pictures, ideas. Write: J.H., 1417 Winchester Rd., N., St. Petersburg, FL 33710; e-mail: JHigu35573@aol.com

GEORGIA

(91) SOUTHERN GENTLEMAN: GWM, looking for LTR with young man, 35 or younger. I am 55, 5'-10", 215#, silver hair, brown eyes, gray hairy chest, smooth shaved professional. Enjoy theater, music, travel, cooking, quiet evenings at home or attending concerts/dining out. Like to cuddle, kiss, touch, hold, and make slow gentle passionate love. Prefer top, but versatile. Not into kink or pain. Likes slender to medium build, smooth or hair young professional men who want to form a loving LTR. Will respond to all inquiries and willing to exchange photos. E-mail: BMcint843@aol.com

(91) GEORGIA/NATIONWIDE: GWDM, 66, 6'-3", trim 220#, gray/bald, hairy, salt & pepper 'stache, retired professor, CR model DIXIE DICK, seeks mature 35-50 year old, emotionally and financially secure, nonsmoker, non- (or not excessive) drinker, HIV negative, for friendship, traveling companion and safe fun. Reply with picture to: Dick, P.O. Box 1126, Hiawassee, GA 30546-1126. Fax: (706) 896-9088, E-MAIL: dixiedick69@yahoo.com

(V) CENTRAL TO COASTAL GEORGIA: 57, 170#, 5'-11", blue eyes, silver hair/moustache, seeks mature (prefer over 40), masculine (Southern Gentleman?) to get acquainted, friendship first (possibly do part-time unusual entrepreneurial venture together), future partners in long-term monogamy. Herbal Den, P.O. Box 424, Sparta, GA 31087, or call toll-free at 1-800-BEE WORK

(V) ATLANTA: GWM, 54, 5'-11", 170#, blue eyes, dark black hair, thick six-inches cut, seeking all big and heavy older seniors, ages 55-90, with huge, round overhanging bellies, weight from 310# - 380#. Seeking any race. Enjoy hugging, kissing, fondling, Greek top, French A-P, mutual J/O. Your nude photos with phone gets prompt reply. Hozie James, P.O. Box 17994, Atlanta, GA 30316.

ILLINOIS

(V) CENTRAL ILLINOIS/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 74, 5'-9", 185#, seeking mature, heavy-set for meetings and companionship. Letter with description and/or photo will be answered. Write: **NUTHATCH**, or call (217) 442-4896.

(91) ILLINOIS/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 66, 6'-1", 195#, bald, white beard. Former teacher, farmer and pastor, now a wanderer. Seek travel companion(s) for inexpensive adventure travel, both global and camping USA. Photo appreciated (will return), but adventurous spirit more important than looks, age, or race. Write: Warren Lowe, 27674 State Route 23, Sycamore, IL 60178, or call (815) 895-9403.

INDIANA

(V) INDIANA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 36, 5'-9", 260# (heavy-set), nonsmoker, enjoys sports, outdoors, bowling, traveling, and flea markets. I seek GWM to share life and adventures with and who knows what might happen. Write: J.S., P.O. Box 266, Wabash, IN 46992.

(V) NW INDIANA: GWM, 41, 5'-9", 155#. Am 50 miles SE of Chicago. Balding, salt-and-pepper, moderately hairy with goatee. I'm affectionate and masculine. Enjoy the company of husky seniors. Beards are a plus. E-mail: izakar@aol.com, or call (219) 763-3157

KENTUCKY

(V) KENTUCKY: GWM, 34, 5'-8", 134#, slim muscular build, brown hair, blue eyes, perfect 6-1/4 cut. Exhibitionist, loves nudity. Seeks men 50+ only! Old timers, grandfathers, seniors are welcome. Discretion is required. Must be masculine and not too heavy. Couples, clergy and married get priority. Write: Mark A. Lawson, P.O. Box 324, Shepherdsville, KY 40165.

MAINE

(91) RVer DENNIS - FLORIDA/MAINE: 58, likes camping, travel, cooking, exercise, fishing, gardening. Seeks fit, younger top men. Write: Delpape, General Delivery, East Orland, ME 04431.

MASSACHUSETTS

(V2) BOSTON BILL, age 69, seeks friends and social companions living near Boston. Prefer single, nonsmoker, 25-45, any race. E-mail: bostbill@ix.netcom.com Fax: (617) 288-6331, P.O. Box 261, Boston, MA 02122.

(V) BOSTON: GWM, 62, 5'-11", 174#, salt & pepper hair, nice build, chunky, hairy chest, blue eyes, nice thick legs. Seeking masculine similar for friendship and more. If you are coming to Boston, will help you with any answers on questions about the gay scene. I like theater, movies, dining out, traveling. Your photo (will return) and telephone number will get a prompt reply. Write: **JAKE**

MICHIGAN

(92) FLINT/NATIONWIDE: Straight acting WM, youthful 66, 5'-11", 300#, blue, big belly, firm bubble-butt, good looking, charming personality, compassionate, caring and affectionate, monogamous. Myriad of interests. Relocation possible. Nonsmoker. World-class deep throat, French A/P, Greek passive, par-excellence. A master of male Kamasutra (ancient art of making love). HIV negative, excellent health. In search of understanding, W/H/M, slender, youthful top, smooth bodied, studly, 25-40, who needs constant servicing by passionate older friend, hopefully more, but not interested in reciprocation. Send address, phone number, photo (will be returned), to: Pen Worthington, P.O. Box 613, Lapeer, MI 48446.

(91) MICHIGAN/NATIONWIDE: GBM, 49, 5'-8", 165#, masculine, muscular, trim, honest, nice hard body and buns. Loves all sports, movies, theater, music, traveling. Seeks trim, nonsmoking top, GM, any race, for one-to-one. Willing to relocate. Write: **BUNNY**

(91) NORTHERN DETROIT/LOWER THUMB/INTERNATIONAL: Sincere, honest, lovable, with great sense of humor and always a genteel man. Straight acting, 65, 6 ft., 345#, blue eyes, silver hair, looking for a meaningful relationship. Loving, caring, and very attentive to partner's needs and desires. Incurable romantic, candlelight dinners with a glass of wine are the norm, even with pork and beans. Into quiet times at home, holding, hugging, kissing, caressing, and cuddling with occasional night-on-the-town. Wide and varied interests. French A/P and Greek passive for that special someone who also receives an experienced, insatiable, deep throat with no reciprocation necessary. I love intellectual intercourse covering a myriad of subjects but find the hands of a mechanic on my large, smooth, body much more stimulating. Nonsmoker, light drinker, HIV negative. YOU: Early 20s to 45/50 with slender build, smooth/semi-smooth body, masculine, preferably with an access of testosterone in need of constant attention. Uncut a definite plus but not a prerequisite. Pleasuring a "classic " penis is my field of expertise. Write: J.K., Box 42-C, Almont, MI 48003. All answered. Or call (810) 798-2636 with discretion.

(V2) DETROIT AREA: 55, 6 ft., 180#, single (lost partner in 1998). Likes men over 60, nonsmoker, light drinker, no drugs, financially secure. Interests are wide but include travel, reading, computers, movies, scuba, sports. Favorite pastime is spending time with someone special. Write: **CRLVR**, or e-mail: crlvr@aol.com

(92) MICHIGAN: Ursus unique! Professional GWM, 45, 5'-10", 230#, brown/gray, hazel eyes, bearded, balding, good-looking, HIV negative. Intelligent, loving, great sense of humor. Interests: movies, arts, dining, out, travel, intensely romantic evenings home with you! Prefer quieter life-style, not bar scene. In search of similar for friendship, possible long-term relationship. Age/looks of no concern; warm, honest spirit is. No drugs. Serious only. Try a caring Teddy. Letter/photo to N.T. Plante, 1301 - 1st St. #20, Menominee, MI 49858-2862.

MINNESOTA

(91) WEST CENTRAL LAKES: SWM, 32, 5'-11", 195#, uncut, brown/brown, looking for 60+, grandfatherly, smooth, loyal, honest, sense of humor, fun. Please send photo/phone. **T-BONE**

MISSISSIPPI

(V) BAY ST. LOUIS: Take care of an older man. He is just fine except a little unsteady on his feet. I am 72, 5'-9", 160#, uncut. You are 50-65, over 160#, preferably uncut. Free living in a pleasant town. Tom Horner, 212 Ballentine, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520.

(92) MISSISSIPPI/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 73, 6'-2", 170#, retired professor seeks clergy, attorneys, doctors, professors and professional men for friendship and more. Photo and telephone number. Write: J.W., Ph.D., Box 4056, Biloxi, MS 39535.

MISSOURI

(91) ST. LOUIS: Two studs, 50 and 60, hung nice, enjoy cock pump enlargement, leather jock straps, tight jeans. Love sex, no race/age barrier. No drugs or smoke. Stop by, stay over, enjoy home cooking, videos, sex or no sex, okay. Weekends best. Write: A.A. Kuhn, 10360 Concord School Rd., St. Louis, MO 63128.

NEW JERSEY

(94) INTELLIGENT, LOYAL FRIEND: sincere, caring and affectionate. BiWM, 69, 5'-11", 165#; interests include cultural, scientific, spiritual, sexual. Me: Dignified, balding, fit, HIV negative. You: Mature (any age), enjoy intimacy, communication, control. Ken (201) 592-6690, 6-11:30 pm or weekends. Will return all calls.

NEW YORK

(91) BROOKLYN/NATIONWIDE: Couple, 57 & 54, 175 & 186, 5'-1" & 6'-2", balding/hairy & smooth/red hair, both cut. Seeking friends and couples in NYC and nationwide. We enjoy social nudity, small gatherings, theater, country music. On fixed income: can't travel much, so come and visit, play. Write: Ken & Bob, 235 Adams St. #4F, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

(V2) NEW YORK/LONG ISLAND: Seeks 60+, husky, well-endowed local area man. Me: 44, WGM, 197#, XGDLKG, 5'-11", GDSHPE, independent, masculine, fun, warm, loving. "It's nice to be important, but important to be nice." <greathead@hotmail.com>

(91) NEW YORK: GWM, 51, 5'-9", 185#, short brown hair, bald, affectionate, fun-loving, enjoys theater, movies, travel, long walks, talks, cabaret, architecture, museums, cruise ships, lots more. I seek special guy for great friendship and long relationship. Love to cuddle, kiss, massage, very romantic. I live and work in Manhattan. Looking forward to hearing from you. Please mail letter and photo with your phone number to: **LOVES TO DANCE**

(V) NEW YORK, NEW ENGLAND, MIDWEST: PSGWM, 60, 5'-10", portly, hairy, affectionate, likes older men. Interests include fine arts, nature, history, sports. Can achieve multiple climax under right chemistry. Can travel some. Your photo gets prompt reply. **HONEYCREEPER**

(92) LIKE LONG HOT SESSIONS of gentle nipple play? GWM, attractive, youthful 60s, into hugging, caressing, sharing. Prefers hairy, younger. Safe sex. No drugs, smoke. Your bio and photo get mine. Write: GMG, PMP-K33, 332 Bleecker Street, New York, NY 10014.

OHIO

(91) COLUMBUS: Professional GWM, average looks, 43, 5'-10", 285# (heavy-set), nonsmoker, seeks romantic and affectionate gentleman who is seeking an eventual long-term relationship. J.L., P.O. Box 20766, Columbus, OH 43220.

(V) SW OHIO: GBM (café au lait), 57, 5'-10", 210#, FrA/P, GrA, semi-retired PR professional. Interests: current events, sports, documentaries, veterans' affairs, theater, explicit tapes of mature men. You: 50+, eager for friendship, cuddling, intimacy. Write: STRAC, 7745 Essington Circle, Dayton, OH 45459. E-mail: strac001@aol.com

(V) COLUMBUS: Professional GWM, average looks, 70s, 5'-7", 169#, nonsmoker, seeks romantic and affectionate gentleman who is seeking an eventual long-term relationship. Must be loving and caring, sincere, discreet. No drugs. Safe sex. I am on a fixed income and enjoy quiet times, movies, sports. Your photo will get prompt reply. Write: Bob, 1629 Park Row Drive, Columbus, OH 43235.

TENNESSEE

(92) KNOXVILLE: 50-year-old Dadbear, 5'-11", stocky 265#, full beard, mustache, graying, masculine, single, and exclusively TOP. Completely MONOGAMOUS, and require someone with the same attitude. Only interested in long-term relationship with man who can relocate. Me: INTJ, professional with doctorate, builds pipe organs and harpsichords, wants to build LTR and nothing else. Interested in woodworking, astronomy, travel, chamber music, anything English, hiking, books, photography, conversation, understanding my friends. I am looking for an over-21/cub/son/companion who is uninvolved, loyal, monogamous, and masculine and who needs companionship, commitment, direction, admiration, strength—someone who has the ability to learn to give and take love, is ready to move forward, and has lots of enthusiasm for a lifetime relationship. Two (2) photos and a biography to Boxholder, P.O. Box 30993, Knoxville, TN 37930, or e-mail to Dad4acub.aol.com

VIRGINIA

(94) VIRGINIA/NATIONWIDE: GHM, 25, 5'-8", 250#, seeks GWM, GHM Dad, 45 - ? for long term relationship. D.S., P.O. Box 1301, Chesterfield, VA 23832.

WASHINGTON

(V2) NATIONWIDE/INTERNATIONAL: I seek friends to share adventures and one younger man to share life. I ski (Sun Valley, Idaho), sail (Puget Sound), and travel. I'm 6'-1", 215#, 62, hairy, bearded, affectionate, and aggressive. If you want to know a man who has a good heart, let me hear from you. Photo/phone appreciated: Sam, Box 5132, Everett, WA 98206, or call (206) 292-1096.

(V) SEATTLE/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 62, 5'-10", 200#, gray flat-top, medium hairy, seeks 30-50 GM for LTR. Must be secure for possible relocation. Hairy a plus! Interests include: music, keyboards, ocean, traveling, art, movies, theater, plus! Your photo (will return) and phone number gets quick reply. Please write: David, 2101 N. 106th St. #B303, Seattle, WA 98133.

(92) MONTESANO: Walter, 68, 5'-9", 250#, green eyes, saved cotton top head, brown mustache, big belly, 7" cut mushroom head, likes chubby guys up to 325#. George, 59, 6'-0", 280#, green eyes, shaved cotton top head, brown mustache, white goatee, big belly, big sensitive titties, 6" cut cock, likes thinner men up to 215#. We are mostly oral, cuddly guys. We are HIV negative, don't drink, smoke or use drugs. We live in a 100-year-old mansion in Montesano, WA. Call (360) 249-6939. Come spend the night; let's have sexfun together. Call for reservations after 10:00 am PST please.

(93) PACIFIC NORTHWEST: GWM, 64, 6 ft., 200#, white/thinning, seeks nonsmoker to 60, prefer average build, for long-term relationship. Like home, garden, photography, travel, church, honesty, monogamy. Your photo and phone number get prompt response. Write: Dan, P.O. Box 2532, Walla Walla, WA 99362. E-mail: dano@valint.net

INTERNATIONAL

(NOTE: Letters to coded advertisers will be returned to sender if postage is insufficient.)

(V) QUEENSLAND/AUSTRALIA: WM, 70s, 5'-8", 168#, clean-shaven, wide variety of interests, adaptable. Seeks mature guy, nonsmoker, social drinker, gym-fit, good sense of humour, honest, sincere, caring, mentally and financially stable, able to travel. Write: **OUTSPAN**

(93) NICE/FRANCE: GBM, 57, 1.65/70kg, cut, mustache, healthy, Greek active, French active, nonsmoker, no drugs, light drinker, HIV negative, frank, honest, affectionate, congenial, unattached. Enjoy travel, naturism, nude beaches, music (blues, gospel), eating out, kissing, making love, photography. Looking for a gentleman, 65 to 85, slender, white hair, balding, mustache, very hairy, uncut, hung, Greek passive/active, French active, healthy, for monogamous, loving relationship. French or English. Will reply to all who send nude or nice photo. Write: **EROS**

(91) ENGLAND: BEAUTIFUL DEVONSHIRE: Partners, 40s/50s, seek a third guy for a warm, close relationship, hopefully leading to a "live together" situation. If you can relocate, we offer to share our country cottage with you. Suitable early retired, solvent male. We are both very warm and caring. One has many years nursing experience. If you cannot relocate, then we might consider relocating to you. Please call Alan on (011) - 44 - 1271-342500.

(92) LONDON: Loyal, romantic, stocky, 41 yo, 6 ft., seeks loyal, romantic, clean-shaven, silver fox voiced, passive, chubby 50s/60s, 5'-9", sensitive droopy tits, sensitive bottom, white hair, half-moon glasses. Photo with reply. Write to Mr. Rod Price, 96 Casterbridge Abbey Rd., London NW6 4DR.

(V) NORTH GERMANY: Teddybear, 55, 170 cm, 95 kg, uncut, with belly, beard and sensitive nipples, seeks a teddybear, 50-75, with a big belly for penpal, friendship and (when retired) long relationship. Love to cuddle, kiss and have hot man sex. Enjoy traveling to Australia and USA, flea markets, GMW motor bikes, leather, and homemade S/M. Write: **POLICEBEAR**

(93) MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA: GWM, 25, 6'-2", brown hair, medium build, seeks 40+, preferably stocky and hairy for casual relationship and maybe more. Enjoy drives, golf and bicycle riding. Your photo (will return) and telephone number will get prompt reply. Write: Brent J., P.O. Box 39, Blackburn South, Victoria 3130.

[IMPORTANT NOTE: Send unsolicited photos at your own risk. If you have sent solicited photos to a model or advertiser and they are reluctant to return same, write them again and copy us. Notice to models and advertisers: we will not tolerate failure to return solicited photos when asked to do so. Responders: please make sure you fit an advertiser's guidelines before writing. The advertiser is under no obligation to answer responders who are not the type asked for.]

CR FRIENDS NETWORK

The following men/couples have offered to take single men—regardless of age, size, looks, color—"under their wings" primarily on a social and spiritual basis. If you are lonely and in the advertiser's area, contact him and he will help you meet the right people.

ARIZONA - TUCSON - **BAREKAT**

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CALIFORNIA - CHATSWORTH - **JAYCE**
FAIRFIELD AREA - **TOM**
GARDEN GROVE, CA - **TUFLUV DAD**
HOLLYWOOD - **HOLLYWOOD'S BUD**
PALM SPRINGS - **HAMHOCK & KIMBEAR**
PALM SPRINGS - **PAPITOMAS** - papitomas@aol.com
SACRAMENTO - **RICO**
SAN DIEGO -**BIG BILL**
SAN FRANCISCO - **ROGER II**
SANTA BARBARA - **ROSE**
VENICE - **MAMBO**
COLORADO - DENVER/NEIGHBORING STATES - **STILL PERFORMING**
ROCKIES -**DANO**

FLORIDA - CLEARWATER - **CHARLES**
EAST-CENTRAL - **FLORIDA RUSS** - MayoRC1@aol.com
FT. LAUDERDALE AREA - **FT. LAUDERDALE JON**
FT. LAUDERDALE - **SHORTY**
FT. MYERS AREA - **BLUE BIRD**
JACKSONVILLE - **BILLBMAN** - Billbman@aol.com
MIAMI BEACH - **DUKE**
NORTH PORT - **NORTH PORT JOE**
SARASOTA AREA - **PROFESSOR RICK**
WEST PALM BEACH AREA - **W.P.B. DAN**
WEST PALM BEACH AREA - **NARI**

GEORGIA - ATLANTA - **J.R.P.**
ROSWELL - **ROBI**

ILLINOIS - N.E. AREA - **N.E. I. ALAN**
CENTRAL/SOUTHERN AREA - **PIGWEED**
ROCKFORD AREA - **LAWRENCE OF ROCKFORD**

INDIANA - N.E. AREA - **INDIANA MICHAEL**

KENTUCKY - LOUISVILLE AREA - **G.L. PATRICK**

MASSACHUSETTS - NEAR CAPE COD AREA - **AUGAR**
- NEAR CT LINE - **PORKER**
MINNESOTA- SOUTHERN AREA - **BIRDMAN**
MINNEAPOLIS - **WAG**

MISSISSIPPI - BILOXI - **J.W.**
BAY ST. LOUIS - **TOM HORNER**

NEW HAMPSHIRE - REMOTE - **N.H. LEW** - langd32@hotmail.com

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MONTCLAIR AREA - **N.J. JUD**

NEW YORK - BRONX - **GRANDIN**
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PENNSYLVANIA - Philadelphia Suburbs - **PACKER**
Philadelphia - **JOEINPHILA**

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MILWAUKEE AREA - **MILWAUKEE JOE**
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ALL ABOUT PLACING ADS AND RESPONDING TO ADVERTISERS, MODELS, AND CR FRIENDS

1. COMMERCIAL RESPONSE TO PERSONAL ADS: The express purpose of our personal ads is to aid our readers in finding friends and mates. Any ads of a commercial nature must be placed in the commercial section. Readers responding to personal ads may not use such opportunity to distribute commercial materials. We reserve the right to deny advertising and forwarding privileges to any person found doing this.
2. PERSONAL ADVERTISER'S RESPONSIBILITY: Personal advertisers are urged to answer all mail received, provided the responder is generally the type of person targeted in the ad. We will deny advertising and forwarding privileges to flagrant, repeat offenders.
3. PUBLISHER'S LIMITATION OF RESPONSIBILITY: We take no responsibility for any undesirable relationship or experience resulting from the use of our classified ads, be they personal or commercial. We will monitor all ads and refuse to publish those which obviously imply fraud or peril. Very unsavory people have been known to use publications to victimize readers and advertisers. Seemingly innocent ads designed to lure as many readers as possible into a criminal scam or government sting operation are sometimes placed in erotic magazines. These people also respond to the ads of others with the same come-on. We urge our readers to use these ads with the utmost caution and common sense.
4. AGE REQUIREMENT: All responders and advertisers must be 18 or over. The exclusion of an age limitation in any ad does not constitute an invitation to minors.
5. OUTDATED ADS: Do not answer ads in older issues. People move and post office boxes change hands. Your letter could end up in the wrong hands. Unforwardable letters will be marked with a "U" and returned to sender.
6. SEXUALLY EXPLICIT ADS: We will not publish ads with sexually explicit or coarse language designed more for shock value than for attracting a partner. We reserve the right to edit, rewrite or reject ads.
7. INSTRUCTIONS FOR ANSWERING CODED ADS, which are those with BOLD code names at the end of the ad and no address:
>> Write, stamp and seal your letter inside a discreet envelope. Make sure you have enough postage for overweight and foreign letters. Your return address must be shown on your letter to be forwarded. If you do not have access to U.S. stamps, enclose one international reply coupon for every letter . Stamped letters not meeting the above requirements will be returned with no explanation. Letters with no stamps affixed will be opened.
>> IN PENCIL ONLY, lightly write the code word in the center of the envelope.
>> Enclose $1 cash (or equivalent currency) for each letter.
>> Place your letter(s) inside a larger envelope and mail to CR at P.O. Box 2589, Victorville, CA 92393.
8. INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRITING MODELS, WRITERS AND OTHER CONTRIBUTORS: Same as #7.

NOTE: CR VIPS GET FREE ADS!
IF YOU ARE A CR SUBSCRIBER AND YOUR MAILING LABEL HAS A CODE THAT INCLUDES A V OR HIGHER—OR, IF YOU HAVE SPENT OVER $200 FOR GATHERING REGISTRATIONS AND/OR OTHER MERCHANDISE OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS—YOU ARE ENTITLED TO A FREE AD (50 WORDS OR LESS) IN EACH ISSUE UNTIL YOU TELL US TO STOP.

ALL ABOUT CR

Chiron Rising Magazine is published quarterly by Pat, 59, and Bruce, 78. We don't have a staff, but we have occasional volunteers who help us mail out issues and do clerical work. The magazine is an all-consuming labor of love, so we prefer not to deal with men who project severe attitudes and yell at us. We absolutely reserve the right to deal only with nice guys. On the other hand, we do welcome constructive criticism, provided it is offered in a civil manner. Because we are forced to operate by triage, we respectfully ask our readers to be tolerant of the inevitable delays, screwups and miscommunications. If we err with your subscription or order, please contact us and we will more than make it up to you.

New to CR? Here are answers to some often asked questions:

We were called SWAN in the beginning, but an obscure lesbian newsletter which started publishing after we did registered the name THE SWAN and gave us two weeks to rename our magazine. Two weeks and several thousand dollars later, we came up with CHIRON RISING because the comet Chiron was rising in both our astrological charts. The comet Chiron was named after the mythological centaur Chiron, so we got RAM to create a portrait of Chiron for our front cover. We registered our name and months went by, and we wondered what else would go wrong. Incredibly a new magazine tentatively called 40+ quickly changed its name to CENTAUR and put an image of a centaur on its cover as well. Well, we took the centaur off our cover to block what appeared to be a market confusion attempt, and the other magazine has been flattering us ever since. That's capitalism! We got better; they got better; and you, the reader, benefit.

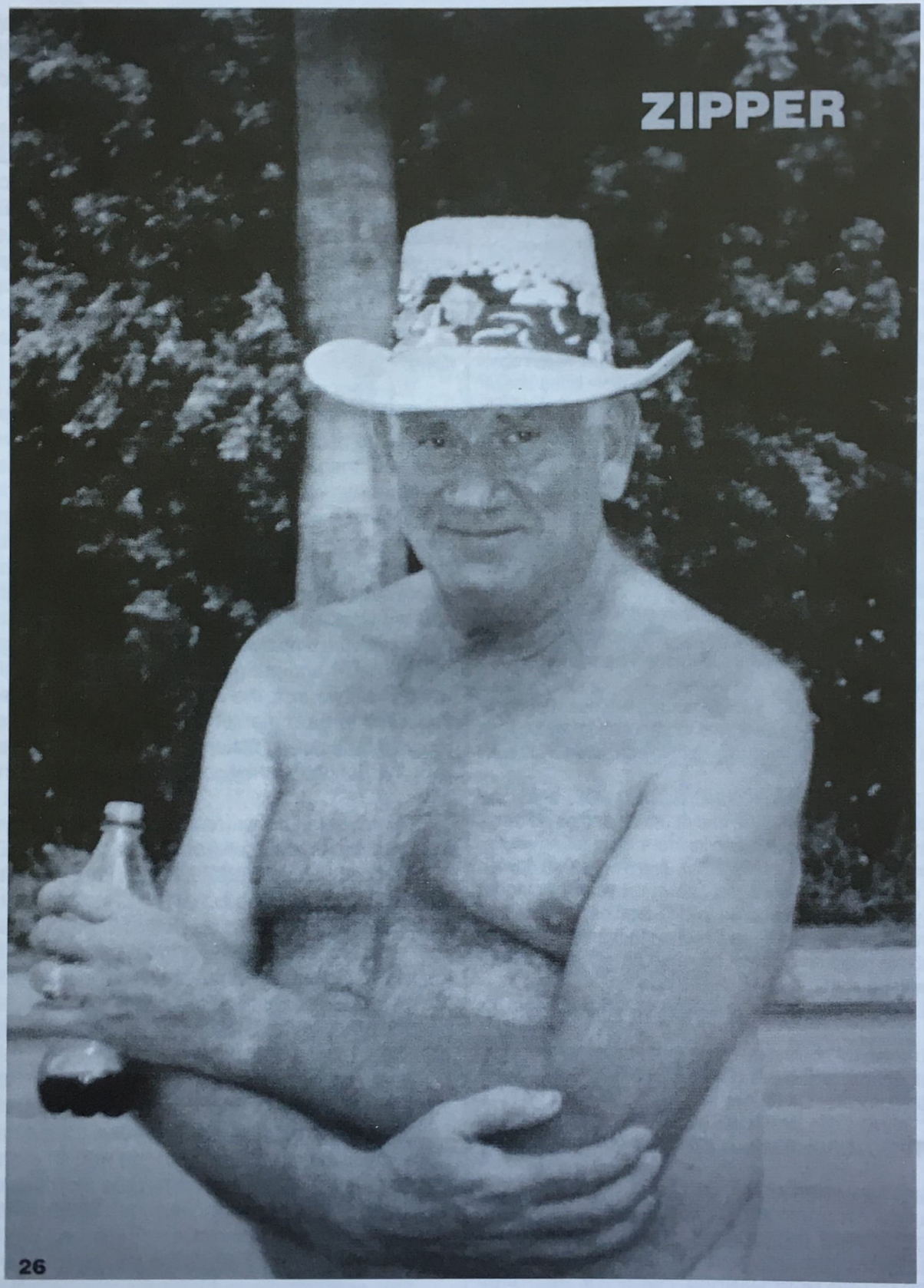
CR models and writers want to hear from you. Follow the instructions at the end of THE CONTACT NETWORK.

The code on your address label indicates the number of your last subscription issue. We will include a reminder note inside the front cover, so don't miss it. A "V" means you're a cool, established customer eligible for free ads. A V2 or V3 entitles you to private favors and a LOT of pampering—within the realm of mutual civility, of course. These codes are based on total products and services purchased, not length of time with CR.

If you would like to become a CR model, follow the instructions in BE A CR MODEL AND CHANGE YOUR LIFE.

We deeply regret that our issues do not distribute like clockwork. We do post a message with an estimated distribution date of the current issue, and that message can be heard by dialing toll-free: (888) 227-2935. Please do not inquire about an issue's status by calling our (760) number or by e-mail. We cannot field such a flood of inquiries.

Our approximate publishing schedule will continue as follows: CR 92 - 10/1/99; CR 93 - 12/1/99; CR 94 - 3/1/00; CR 95 - 6/1/00; CR 96 - 9/1/00; CR 97 - 12/1/00.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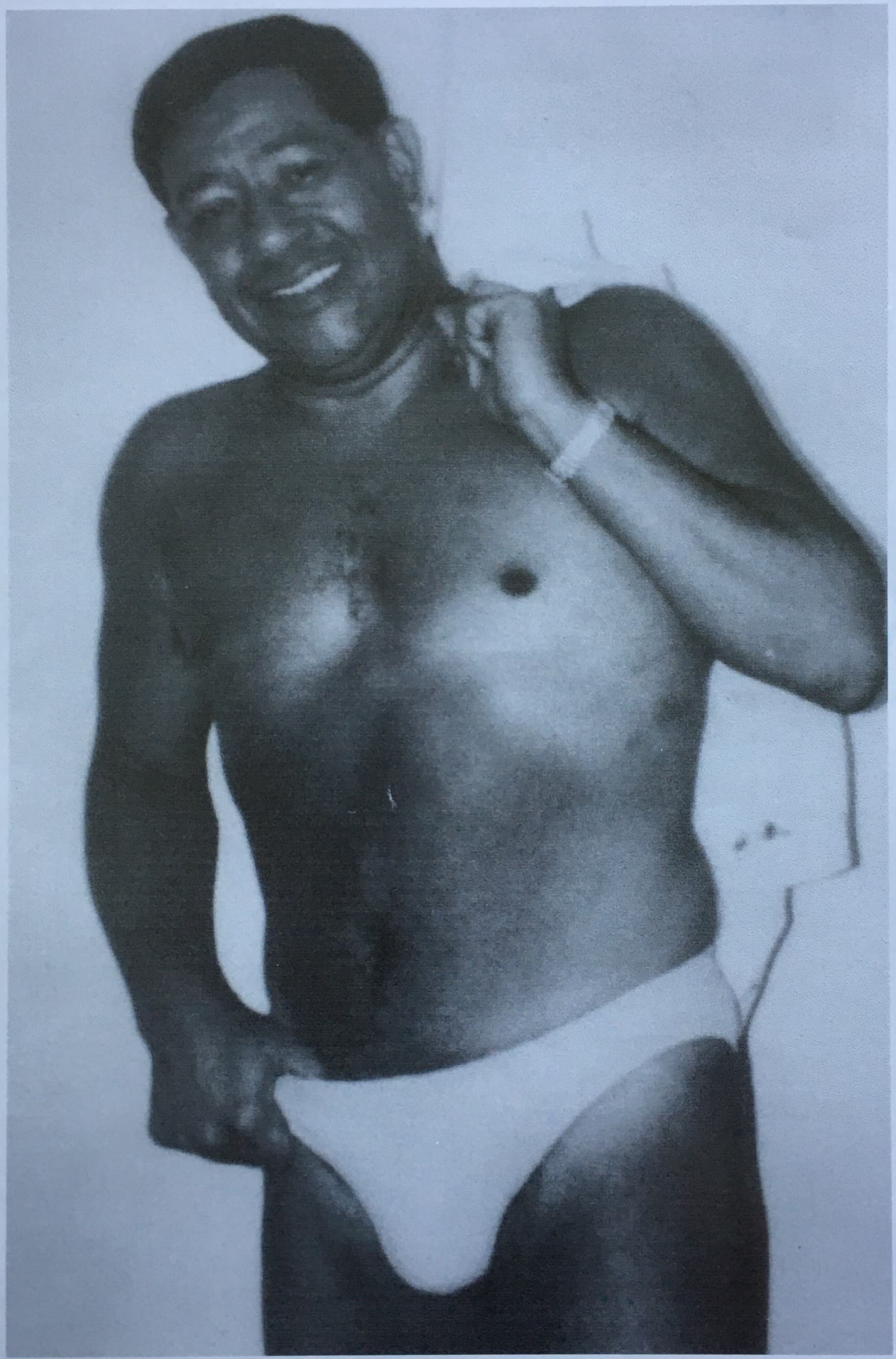

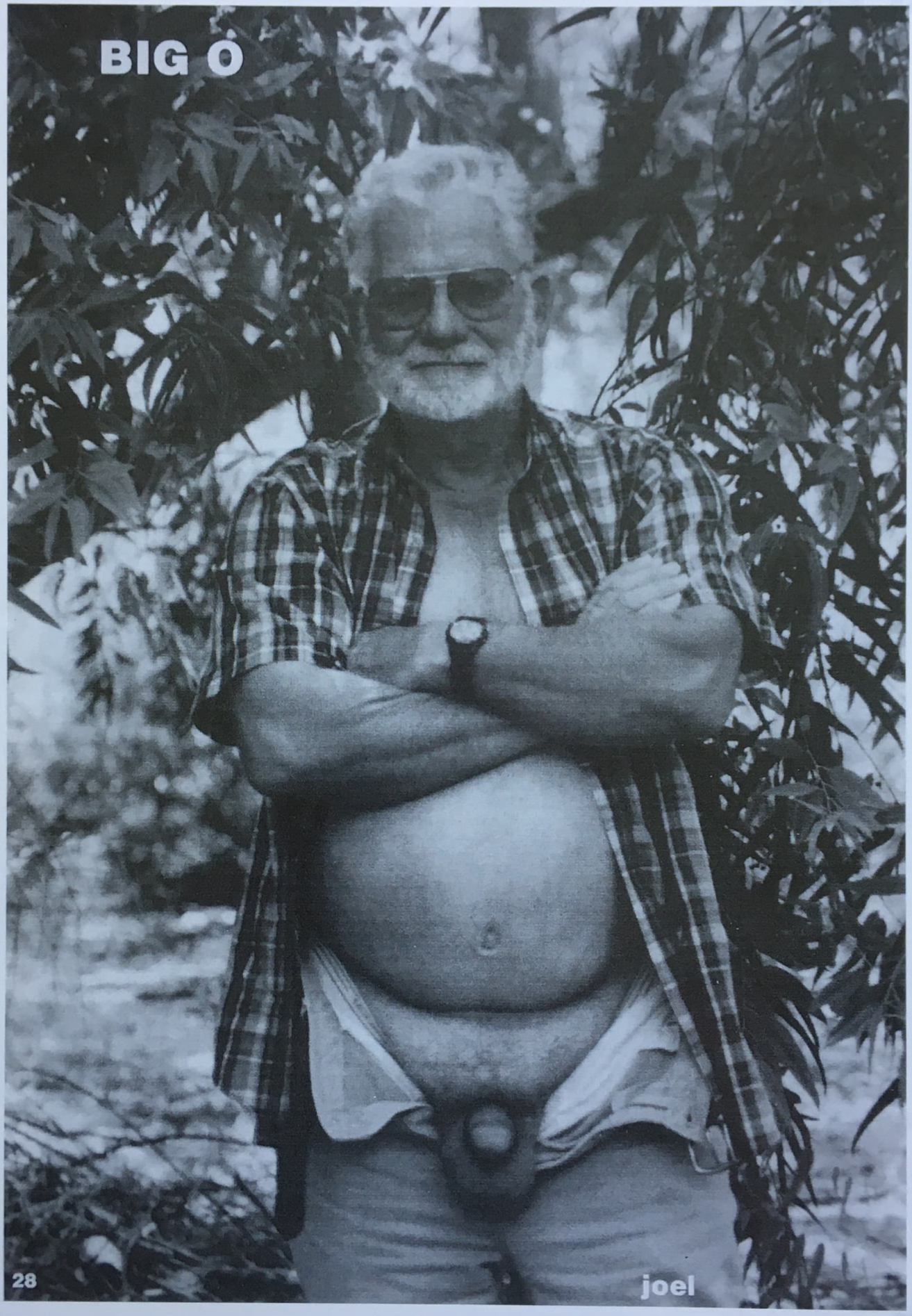
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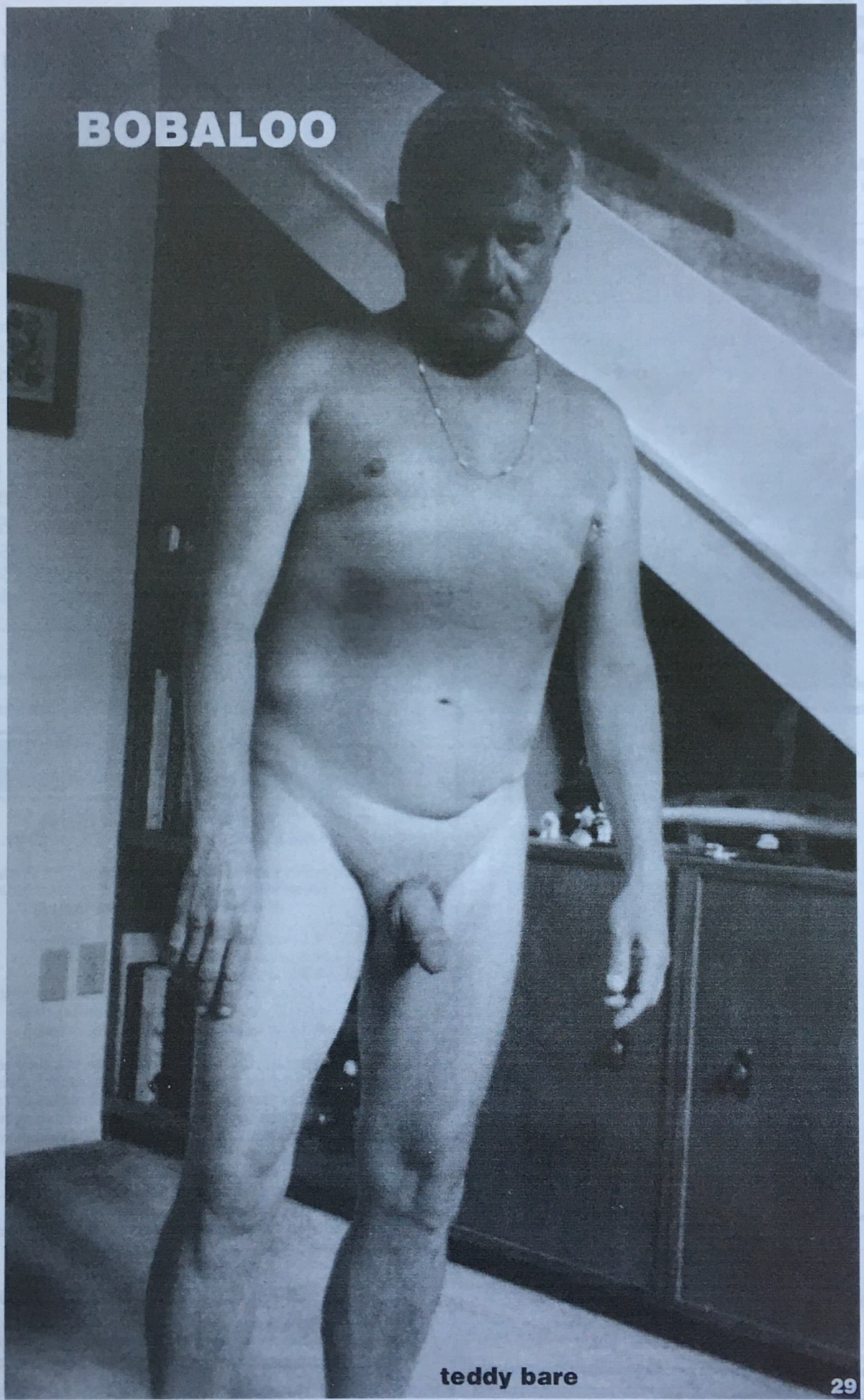
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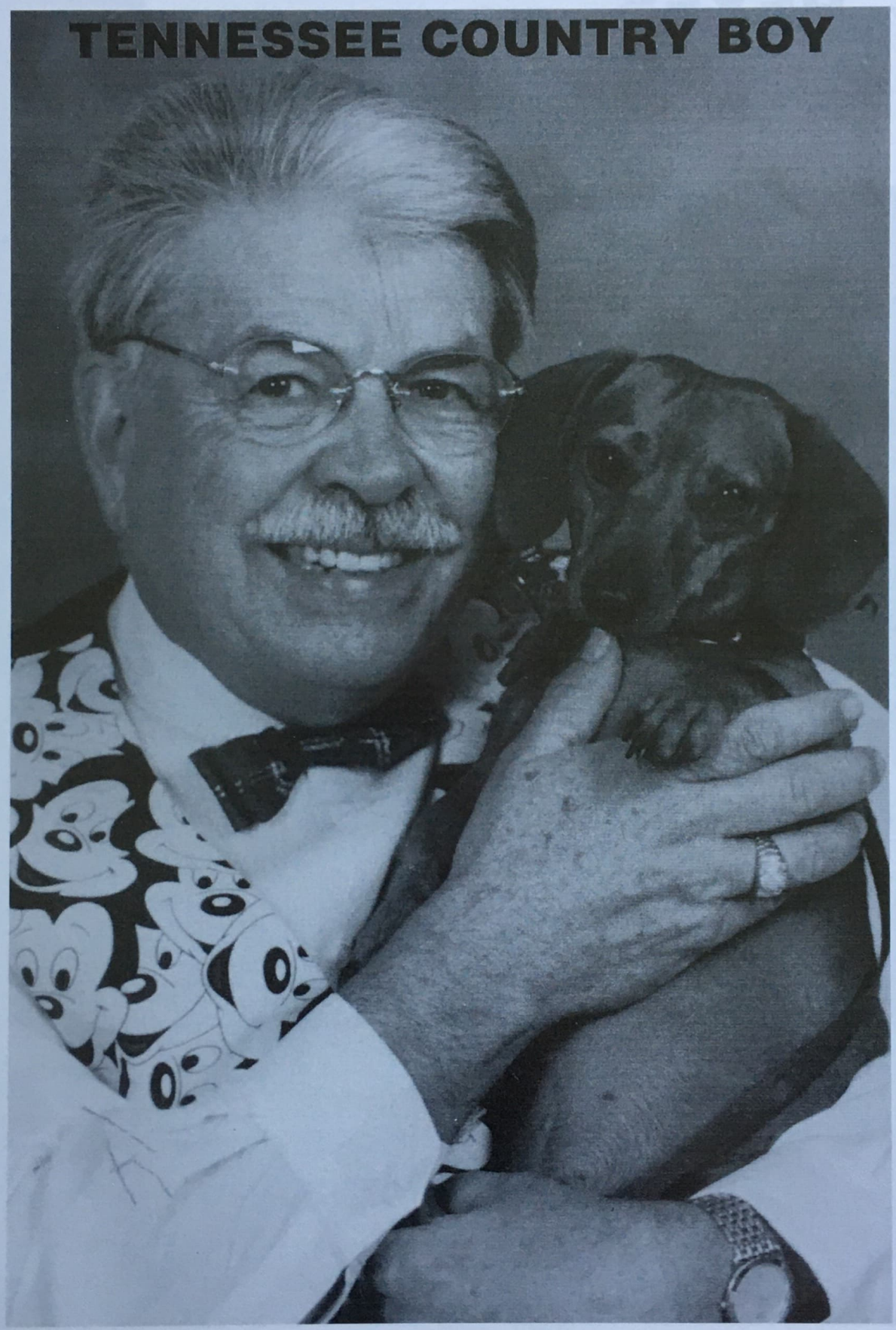
- HIV, relationship and/or marital status
- Type of contact sought (Me...You...)

After identifying those of most interest, they send for full page profiles filled out by each member giving more specific information, as well as means of contact. Annual membership listing is $32, including bi-monthly updates of new members; *CR readers mentioning this ad can deduct $6.* Profiles are $1 for the first, and $.50 for each additional. Members with a positive HIV status pay whatever they can afford.

For membership forms and further information, send SASE to:

THE NATIONAL ROSTER
POB 20975/PACC NEW YORK, NY 10129-0009

Note: We are very selective as to publications where we advertise; our strictly confidential member lists are never sold or distributed.


TENNESSEE COUNTRY BOY

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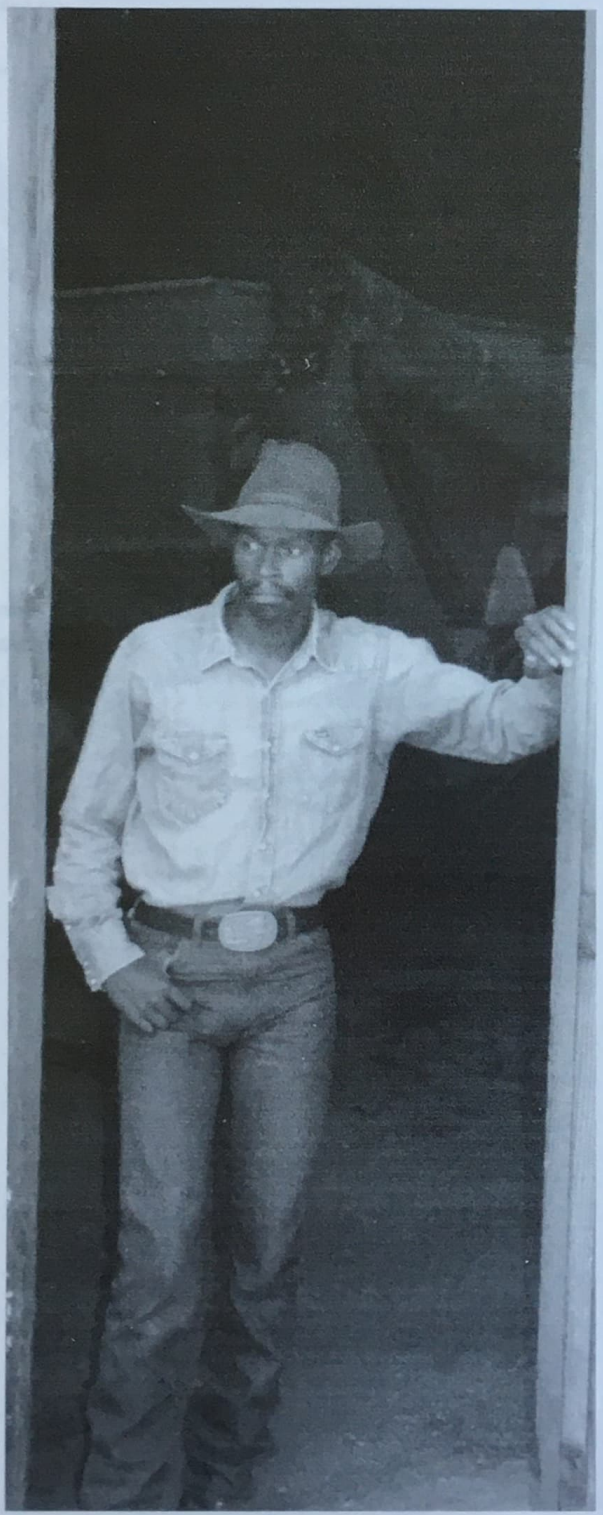

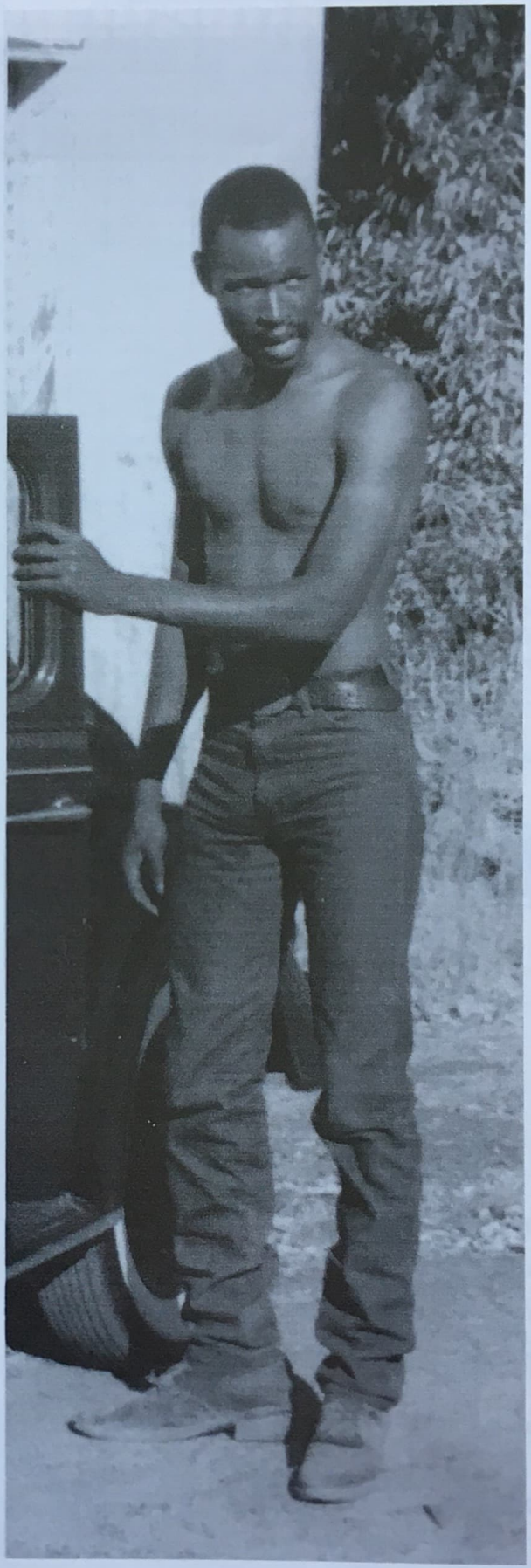

photos by **duane**

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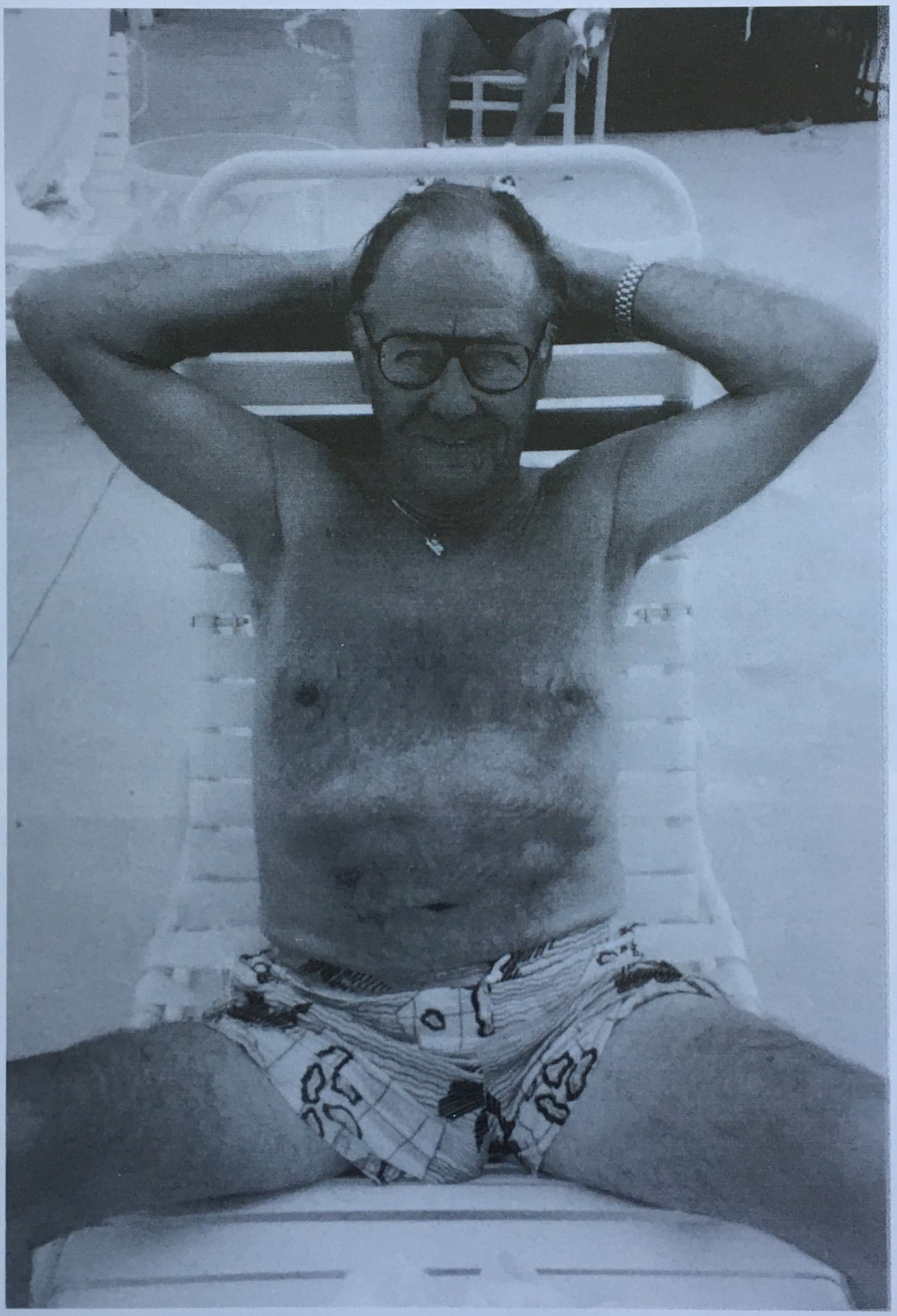

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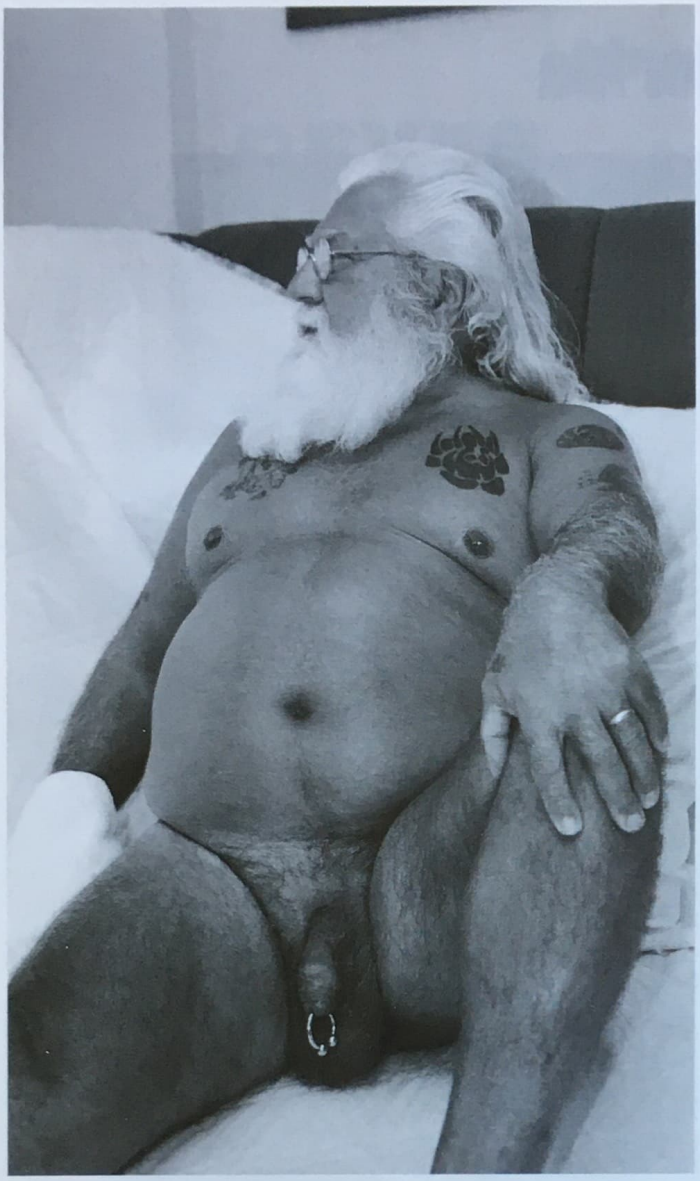

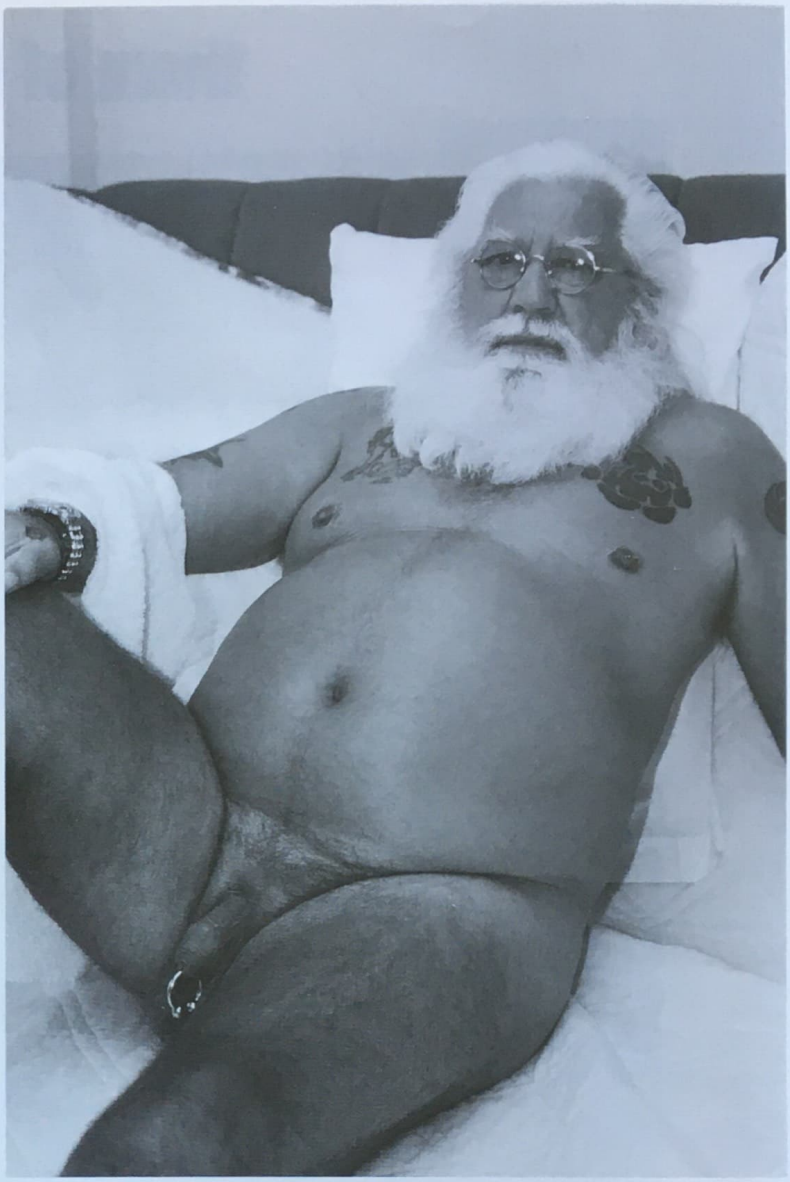

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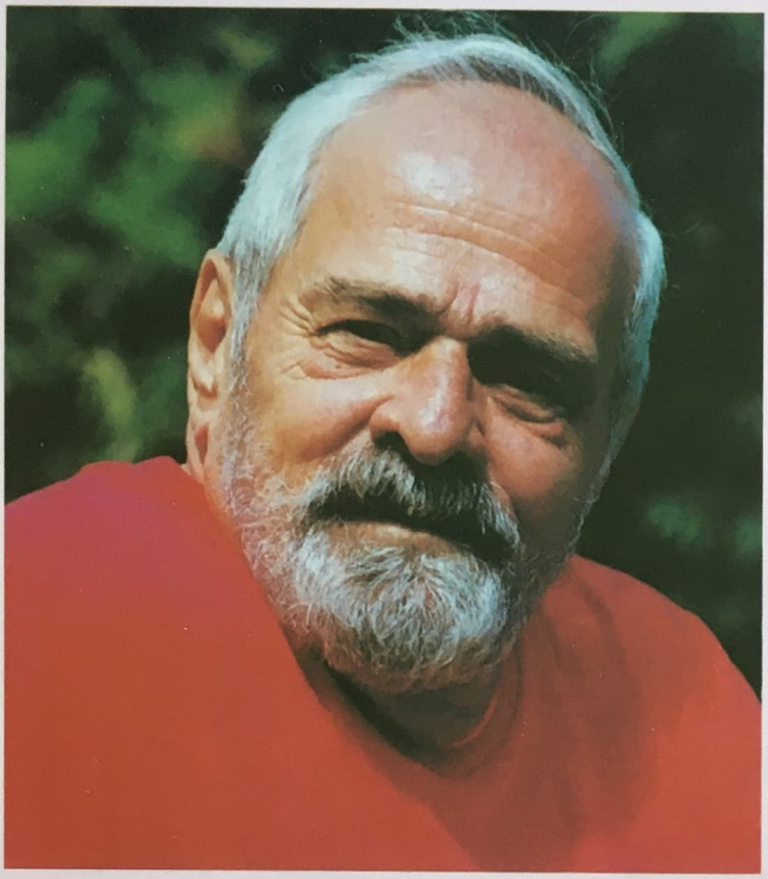

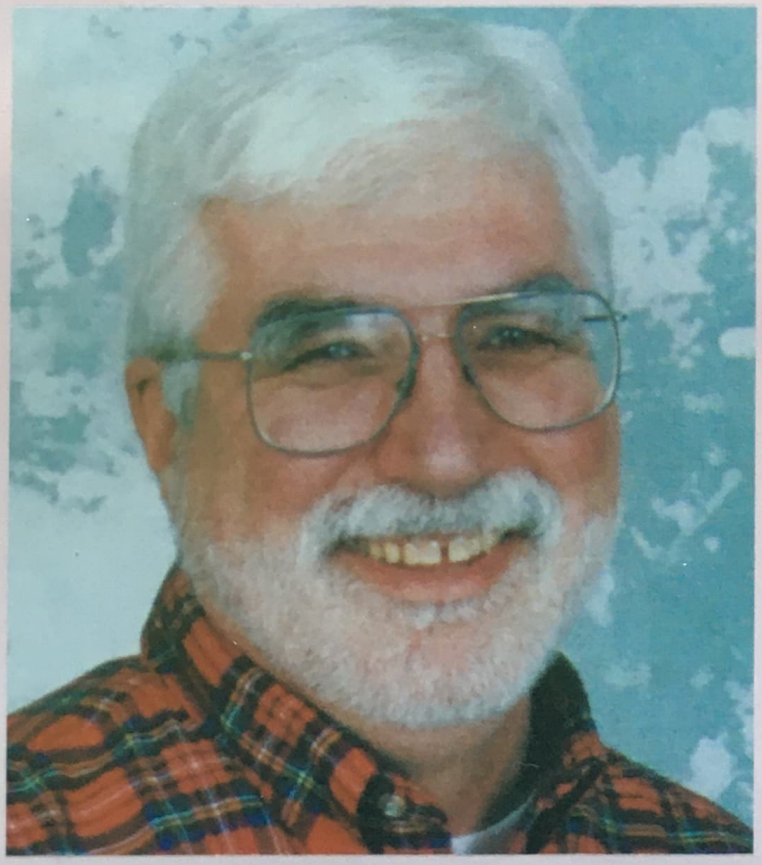

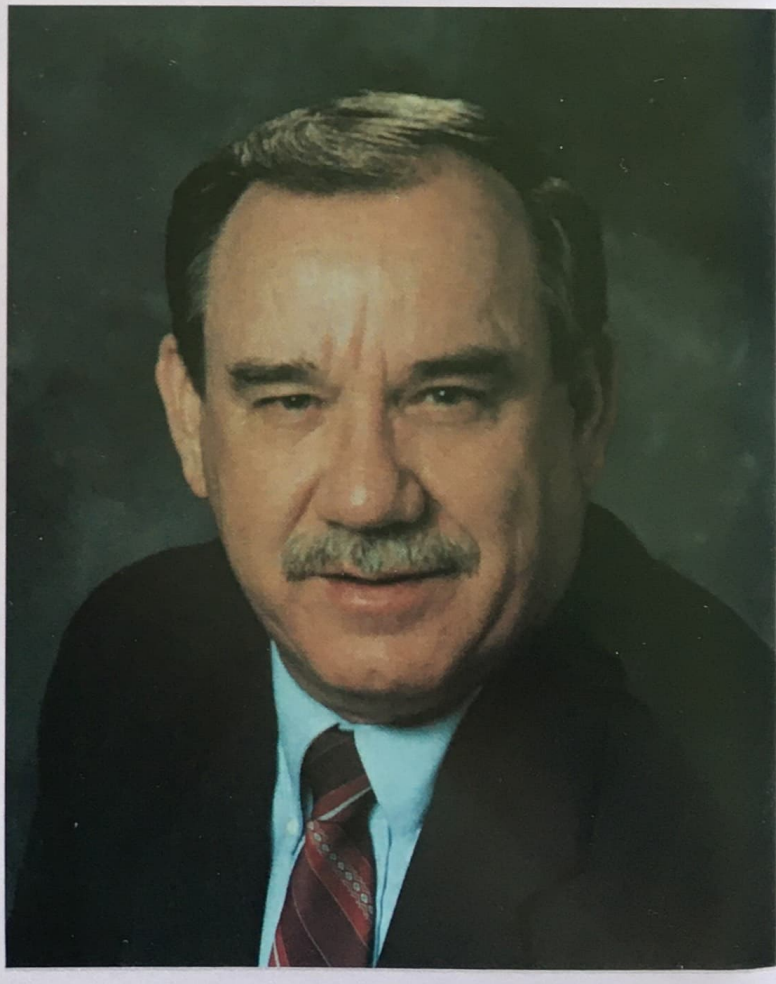

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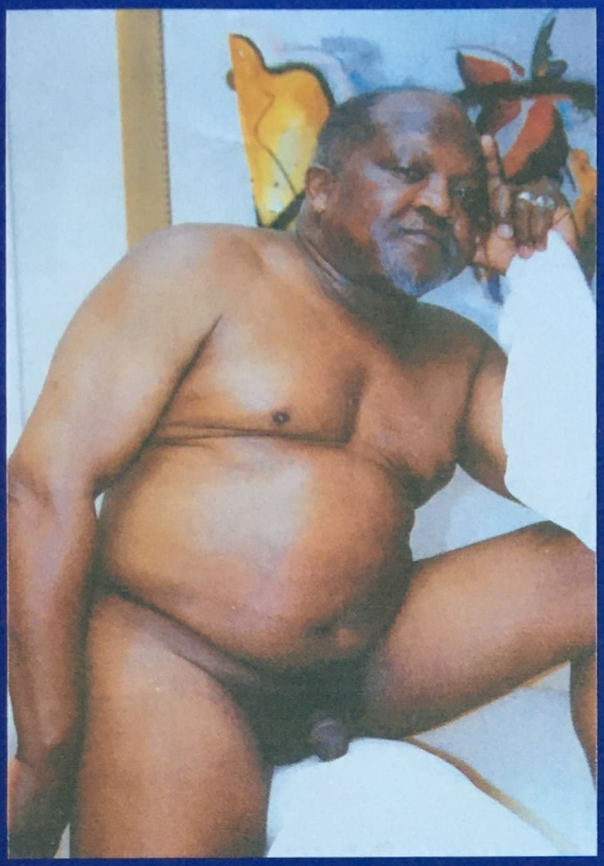

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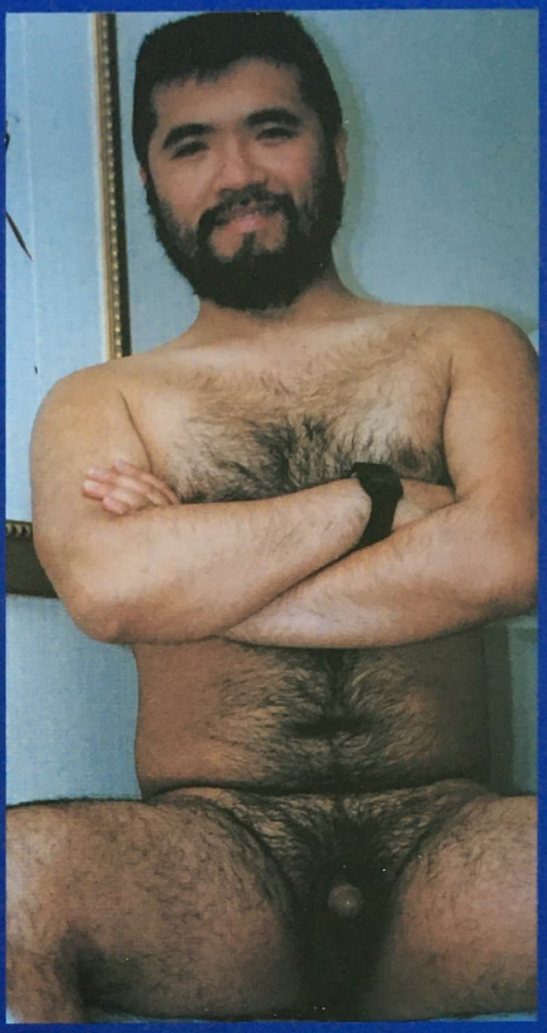

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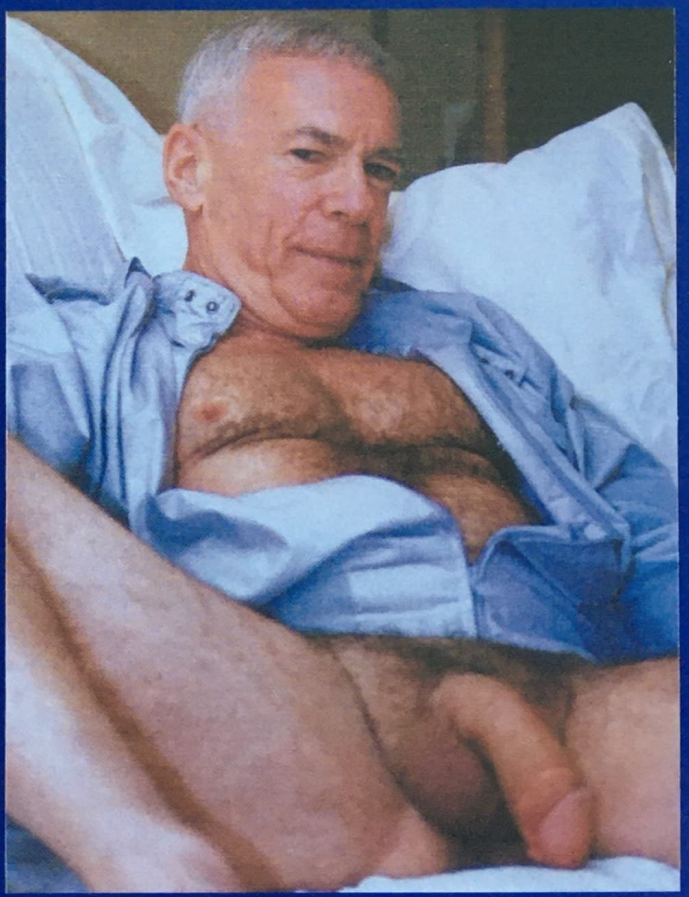

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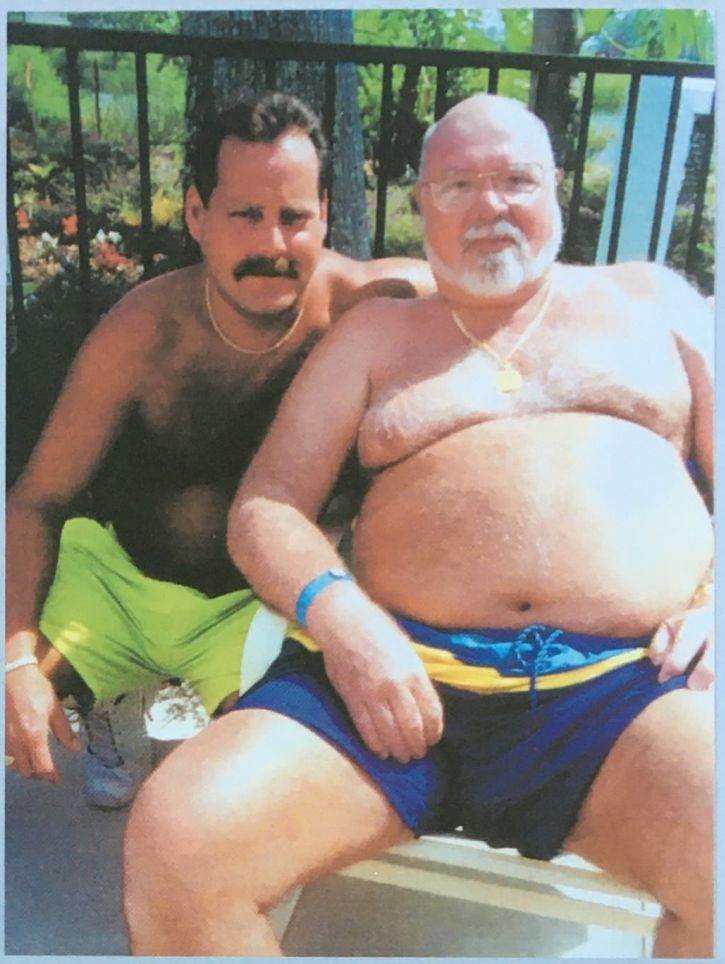

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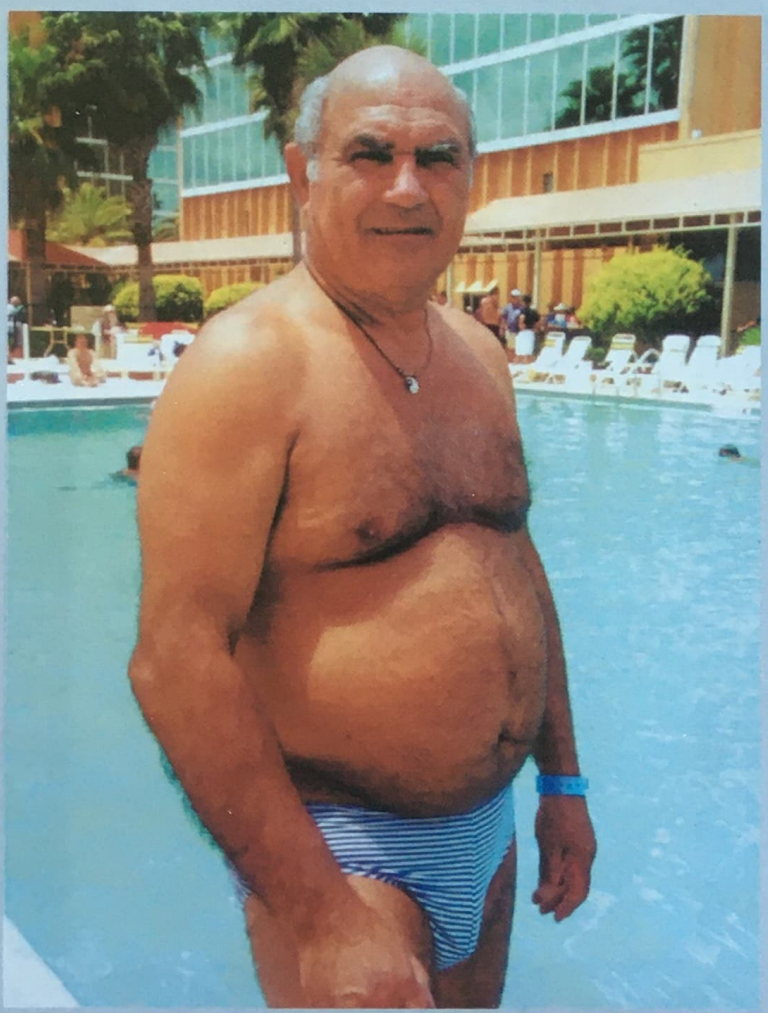

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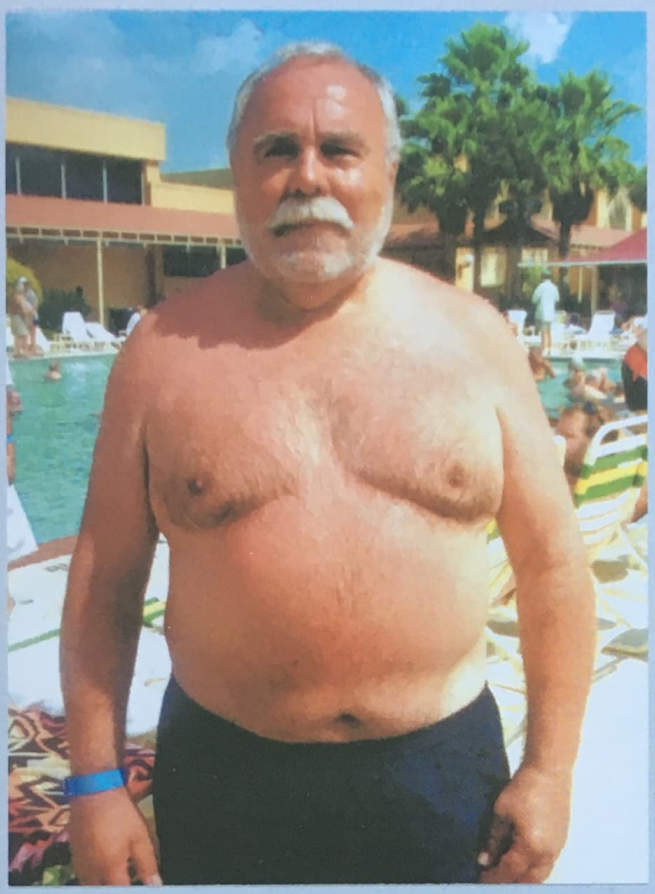

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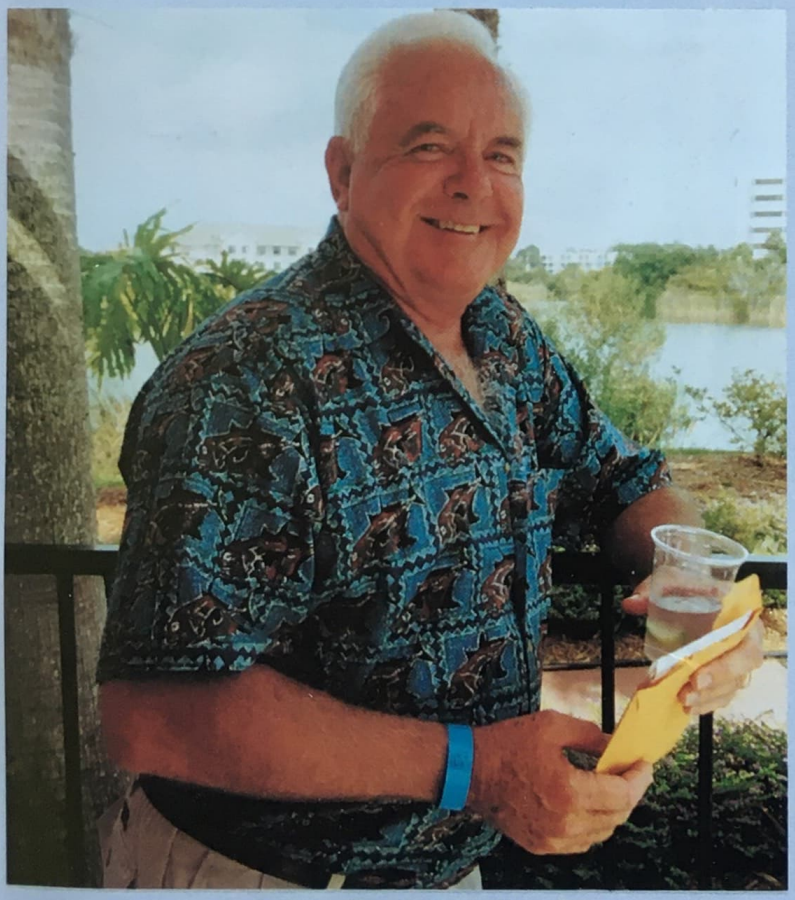

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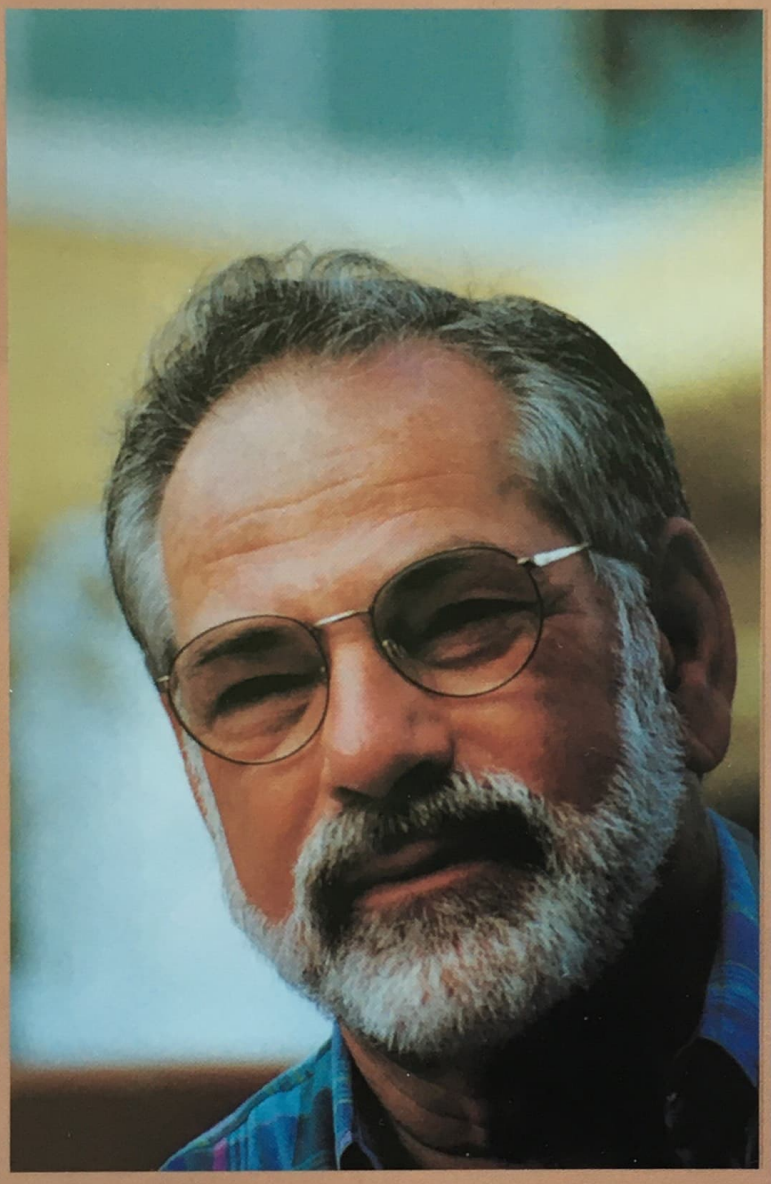

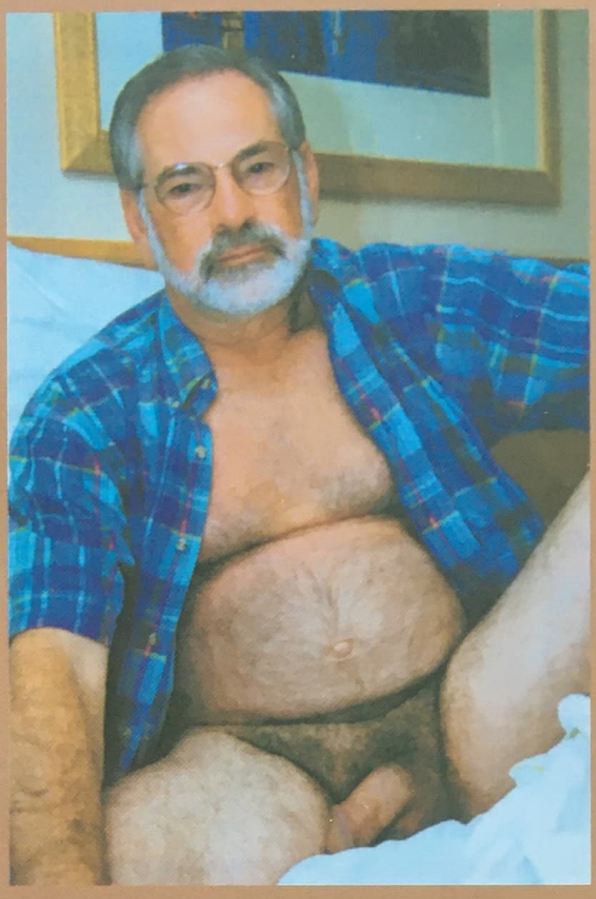

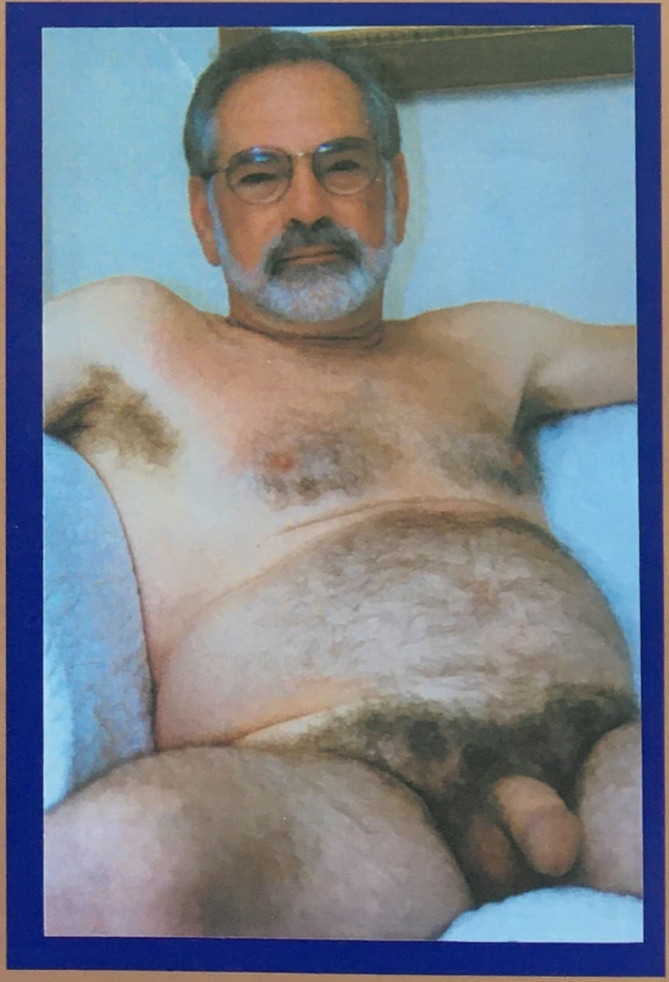

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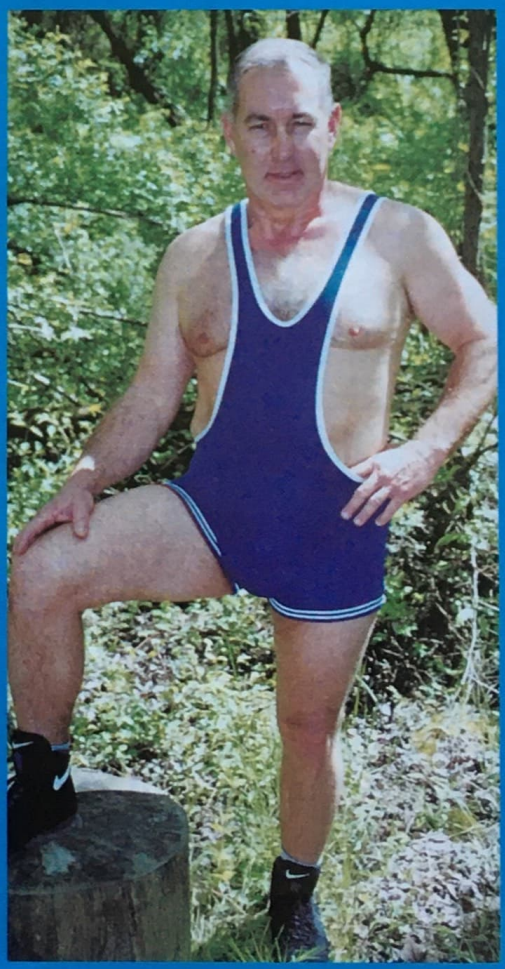

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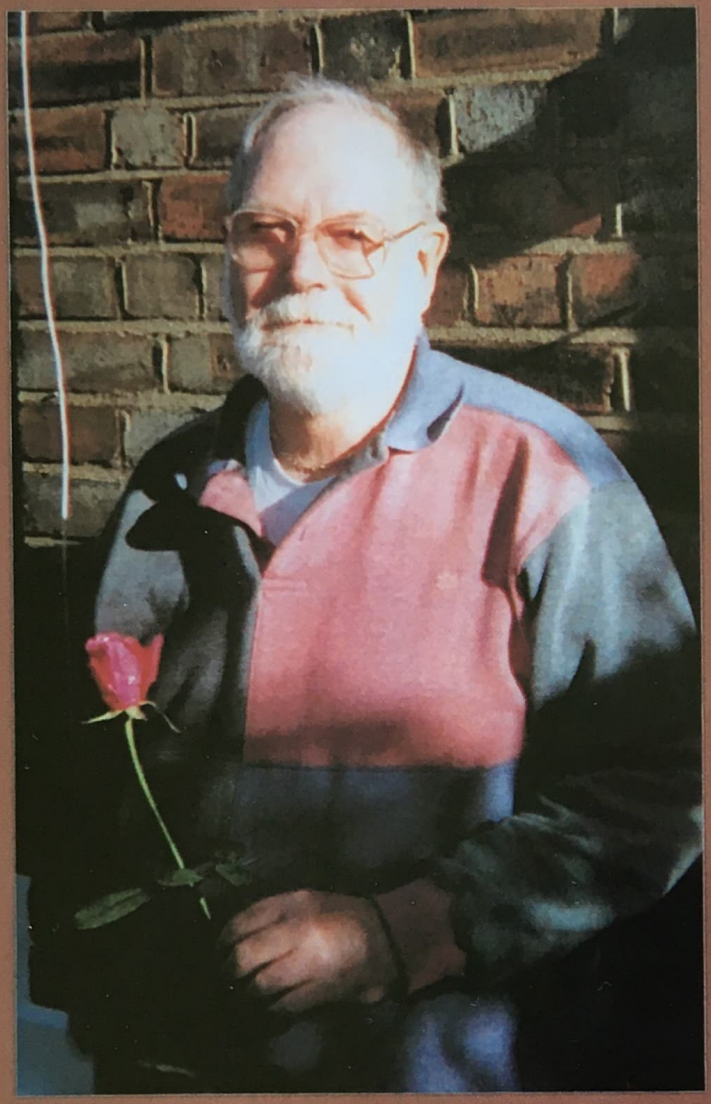

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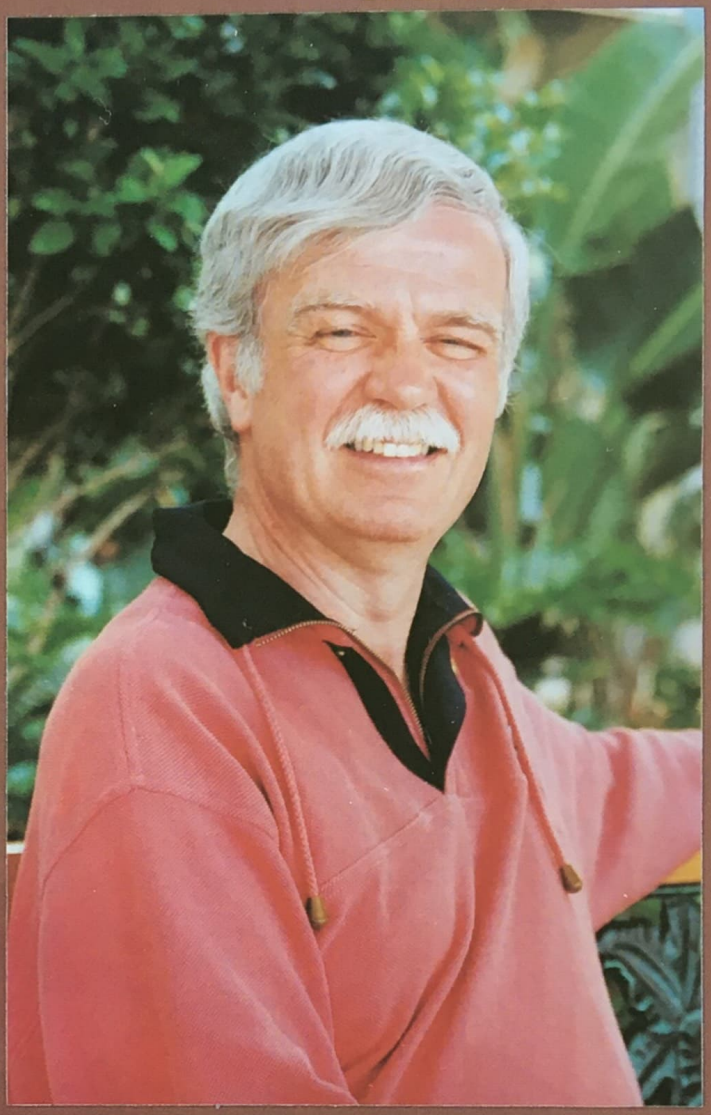

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OUR OWN PRIVATE MARDI GRAS

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Practically at the foot of Canal Street, across the street from the French Quarter, and a couple of blocks from Riverwalk, not to mention the new Harrah's mega casino, and the mighty Mississippi. A mass of eating establishments within easy walking distance—from some of the world's finest restaurants to one of the largest food courts (Riverwalk) in the world. Hosted by one of the finest hotels in the U.S., with superior rooms, outstanding food, and ballrooms just off the elevators. A choice of lodging from inexpensive older hotels in the Quarter to elegant Club Rooms at the Sheraton. Rates for at least five choices of hotels will be posted soon. You will not be required to stay at the Sheraton, but we will offer an incentive to maybe change your mind and help us reach our room commitment. We'd love you for it.

LOTS OF REALLY NICE GUYS

Your chances of meeting choice men on the street are bleak. In Chardees (Ft. Lauderdale), Good Friends (New Orleans) or Rainbow Cactus (Palm Springs), your chances go up considerably. Your chances go through the ceiling at a CR Gathering. Primo, gentlemen. Heaven awaits.

RECEPTIONS

The Friday evening reception will welcome all delegates, especially the "virgins," those who are attending their first gathering. There will be sections identified by regions (Northeast, Louisiana, Midwest, Europe, etc) so neighbors can meet and perhaps arrange to meet independently in their regions. On Saturday, we will conduct a genuine Mardi Gras-style reception, complete with Cajun and Creole munchies and a big line parade to the dinner show led by an authentic Mardi Gras Marching Jazz Band.

DINNER SHOW

What's a banquet in New Orleans without a Mardi Gras show? There will be lots of entertainment and wild distractions, so don't forget to eat.

QUARTER QRAWL

This should break some world record. Our beloved TOMCAT is working out a nice deal with some choice merchants in the French Quarter. We will do a marathon, 10-hour "bar crawl" on Sunday through the Quarter with scheduled stops at various mature-friendly establishments. You buy your own beverage, but the merchants will provide medallioned CR delegates free jambalaya, beans & rice, bread pudding, and God knows what else, in appreciation for our showering them with some Mardi Gras-caliber sales. Scheduled stops will be announced. Join or leave the flow at your leisure.

D.J. DANCING

If you like to dance the night away with some hot man in your arms, we proudly present two spectacular nights (Saturday and Sunday) of D.J. dancing on a huge dance floor in a beautiful ballroom. We don't use just one D.J. We use THE SLUT PATROL, a troop of very funny and very talented CR subscribers headed up by a wildly popular ex-marine named TOMCAT. TSP brought the house down in San Diego in '98 and again in Orlando in '99. Expect outrageous behavior and dance music to suit everyone.

EXPO

Our Orlando Expo was a big hit, so we will do it again. Have a book, artwork, crafts, services, or other merchandise you want to sell? We need to know in advance what you intend to sell and how much room you will need. Adult materials are okay, provided all subjects are over 18.

RECITALS AND CONCERTS

Our own internationally famous JIM EDMONDS will be in charge of putting together a recital series featuring some of the most talented entertainers on the planet. Classical, Jazz, Pop or Country; voice, or instrumental; solo or group; unaccompanied or accompanied by piano or tape —Jim wants to hear from you. Send performance tapes to Jim Edmonds, P.O. Box 249, Cheney, WA 99004, or e-mail: pianist@gntech.net for more information.

WORKSHOPS

We don't have speakers committed yet, but we will advise whenever we do. If you have an idea for a workshop and have the credentials to host it, let us know.

REMEMBRANCE FOR LOST LOVED ONES

We will release balloons into the night sky in honor of our departed loved ones.

FAREWELL BREAKFAST

Gotta have a way to say good-bye and give credit where it is due. One last chance to ask that hot daddy to come and live with you.

GATHERING 2000 SCHEDULE

Friday, May 26: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm - CR Medallion distribution. 10:00 am to 9:00 pm - Expo open. Per-event ticket and merchandise sales. 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm - Reception and Welcome Ceremony

Saturday, May 27: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm - Recitals and Workshops. 10:00 am to 9:00 pm - Expo open. Per-event ticket and merchandise sales. 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm - Reception. 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm - Line Parade with Marching Band leading to the Dinner Show. 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - Dinner Show. 9:00 pm to 1:00 am - D.J. Dancing

Sunday, May 28: 8:00 am to 6:00 pm - Quarter Qrawl through the French Quarter. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm - Recitals and Workshops. 10:00 am to 9:00 pm - Expo open. Per-event ticket and merchandise sales. 9:00 pm to 1:00 am - D.J. Dancing

Monday, May 29: Farewell breakfast.

Note: All events will utilize cash bars provided by the hotel. CR will provide munchies.

EVENT FEES

ALL-EVENT MEDALLIONS that will get you into all events: $169.00 - Prepaid only. Must be purchased in full no later than May 1, 2000. Only 1,000 medallions will be minted, so when they sell out, no extras will be manufactured.

They are very high quality and will last forever. If any medallions are available at time of registrations, they will be sold for $200 each.

WILL-CALL: Not Available.

PER-EVENT TICKETS: All tickets purchased on site. No advance tickets.

Friday Expo - Free
Friday Reception - $20
Saturday Workshop/Recital Series/Expo Pass - $10
Saturday Reception -$30
Saturday Dinner Show - Medallion Only (1,000 max)
Saturday D.J. Dancing - $30
Sunday Workshop/Recital Series/Expo Pass - $10
Sunday Quarter Qrawl - Medallion Only (1,000 max)
Sunday D.J. Dancing - $30
Monday Breakfast - Medallion Only (1,000 max)

CANCELLATION REFUNDS

The above fees are nonrefundable except in cases of doctor-confirmed ill health or the death of a family member or mate, in which case they are fully refundable. In other cases, CR will credit delegate's account for the full amount for use in future merchandise or services.

DELEGATE AGREEMENT

Upon medallion pickup, each delegate will sign an agreement that he will comply with the following code of behavior while attending the convention:

1. Delegate is responsible for any damage he causes to be done to the host hotel in excess of normal wear during the dates of the convention or for the duration of his stay.

2. Delegate agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the hotel and CRPI against all claims, damages, losses and expenses, including but not limited to attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from errors, omissions, or negligent or intentional acts committed by delegate.

3. Delegates with medallions agree to wear their CR-provided medallion at all times during functions and will not be granted entrance to such functions without it. Lost medallions cannot be replaced. Delegate will be required to purchase tickets for the balance of events.

4. Delegate understands that video cameras are banned from all CR venues.

5. Delegate agrees not to indulge in a) offensive behavior, including the verbal or physical abuse of another; b) disruptive or potentially damaging behavior caused by intoxication; or c) any criminal behavior, including but not limited to genital exposure, sexual acts, or any other act deemed obscene or criminal by local laws.

6. Delegate agrees not to host, videotape, or be a party to any unauthorized gathering organized by clandestine invitation or word-of-mouth for the purpose of group sex or any other activity which could damage CRPI's reputation or relationship with the hotel.

7. Delegate understands that the breach of this agreement could result in his expulsion from the convention without refund. Delegate further understands that the breach of this agreement as regards item 5c could result in his arrest and prosecution.

GATHERING 2000 HOST HOTEL

The Sheraton New Orleans has 1100 rooms and suites, a massive atrium lobby with a delightfully cruisy large bar in the center, three food and beverage outlets, 24-hour room service, a full business center, valet parking and valet laundry service. It is considered by many as the premier facility in New Orleans.

GUEST ROOM RATES

Main House, featuring irons and ironing boards, safes, hair dryers, Starbucks coffee and coffee makers, data ports and telephones, no long distance access fees.

Single/Double - $129; Suites from $275; Additional Person - $25

Club Level, featuring all main house features plus stocked mini bars, speaker phones with two telephone lines and data ports, complimentary continental breakfast, complimentary evening hors d'oeuvres, complimentary health clubs access, terry cloth robes.

Single/Double - $149; Suites from $475; Additional Person - $25

All rates subject to 11% sales tax and a $3.00 occupancy tax. Rates are good from May 21, 2000 to June 2, 2000.

RESERVATION PROCEDURES

Make reservations directly with the Hotel by calling (504) 525-2500, or call Sheraton's Central Reservations Office at (800) 325-3535. Remember: IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS BEING PART OF THE CHIRON RISING GROUP.

CR Delegates are not required to stay in the Sheraton and may stay anywhere they choose. Delegates are reminded, however, that CR benefits from as many delegates as possible staying at the host hotel. For every 50 room nights our delegates buy, CR gets one room night credit for staff lodging. If we do not meet our commitment, we face a substantial penalty. For that reason, we will offer an incentive: Every man who stays at least four nights in the Sheraton, properly registered as a CR delegate will receive a complimentary subscription and a free classified ad for a whole year. A $100 value. Add that icing to the fact that the elevators and escalators are across the hall from the ballroom. Oh, one other thing: delegates must have a hotel room key to access the pool, spa, sun deck, health club, and room floors above the convention center.

FRENCH QUARTER ALTERNATIVE HOTELS
THE ST. PIERRE
911 BURGUNDY
1-800-225-4040

This charming, French Quarter hotel has 74 rooms, and the staff has agreed to offer twenty (20) of them to CR Delegates for $89.00 plus tax (one double bed) or $99.00 plus tax (2 double beds or one king). Rates are good through February 1, 2000, or until the room block has sold out. The St. Pierre is ten blocks from the Sheraton, but it you are on a budget and/or love to walk, it might be just the place. You must tell the reservation agent that you are part of the CR group.

GATHERING 2000 REGISTRATION FORM

I WOULDN'T MISS THE NEW ORLEANS SHINDIG FOR LOVE NOR MONEY! SIGN ME UP! I AM RESERVING ( ) MEDALLIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING MEN AT U.S. $169 EACH:

#1 NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

COUNTRY: _____

#2 NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

COUNTRY: _____

#3 NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

COUNTRY: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED/AUTHORIZED: $ _____

PAY METHOD: Check___ Money Order___ VISA___ MASTER CARD___ AMEX___

Credit Card # _____ **Expiration** _____

Signature (the signing of this form authorizes the above charges): _____

CARD HOLDER'S NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

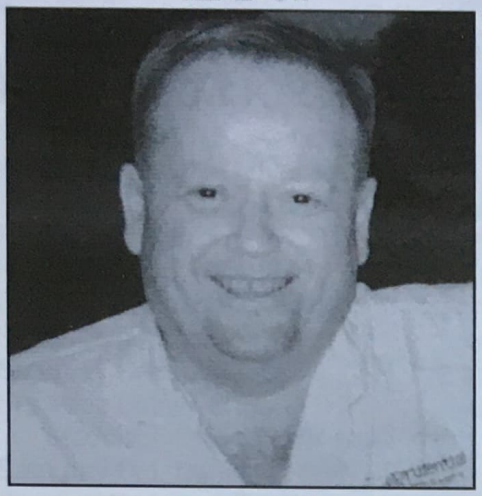
CITY/ST (PROVINCE)/ZIP (CODE): _____

COUNTRY (If other than U.S.A.): _____

Send this completed form to: Chiron Rising Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 2589, Victorville, CA 92393. Allow four (4) weeks for confirmation. Above price is nonrefundable in cash except for doctor-verified illness and death of partner or immediate family member. A full refund is offered, however, in the form of credit for future CR merchandise and services.

Mike Deveau

REALTOR



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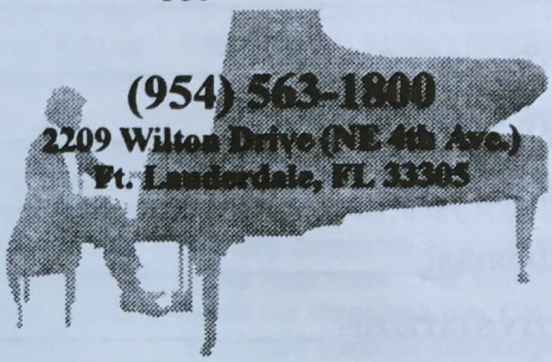

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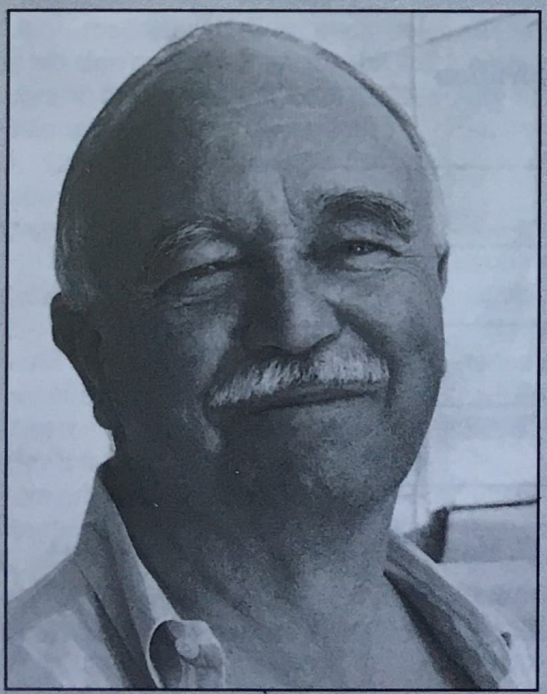

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Adviser and sales executive: BOSTON BILL, a CR model. We know how to serve the mature male and intergenerational community.

Tired of voice mail menus, long hold times? Web sites that don't deliver? We will give you courteous personal service.

Our staff: Dorothy Weaver, a Certified Travel Counselor and travel agents Elaine and Todd.

Lowest available air and cruise fares. No commission charge for tickets.*

Toll-free: 1-888-466-2929, or Fax: (330) 477-3685, or E-mail: always-travel@juno.com

* Except for Southwest, AirTran, Myrtle Beach and Spirit.
Changes or cancellation: $25

CR SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

SUBSCRIPTIONS - 4 quarterly issues
U.S - VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL - U.S.$36.00
CANADA/MEXICO/CENTRAL-SO AMERICA - VIA AIRMAIL - U.S. $40.00
EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, MIDDLE EAST, AUSTRALIA - VIA AIR MAIL - U.S.$48.00
(Circle Applicable)
START WITH _____CURRENT OR _____ NEXT NEW ISSUE.

Note: Back issues are available at annual gatherings only. Postage and handling charges are included in the above pricing. Not subject to sales tax.

TOTAL ENCLOSED U.S. $ _____

NOTE: DO NOT SEND CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS FOR LESS THAN $10.00

PAY METHOD: Check___ Money Order___ VISA___ MASTER CARD___ AMEX___

Credit Card # _____Expiration _____

Signature (the signing of this form authorizes the above charges):_____

Your credit card billing zip code for verification only:_____

ALLOW 4 TO 8 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY. WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR CONFISCA-TION BY FOREIGN CUSTOMS. If not paying with credit card, enclose check or money order in U.S. funds (postal money order or American Express Moneygram only from overseas-no checks unless through U.S. banks), payable to CHIRON RISING. SEND CASH AT YOUR OWN RISK. Mail to CHIRON RISING PUBLICATIONS, INC., P.O. Box 2589, Victorville, CA 92393.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ST (PROVINCE)/ZIP (CODE):_____

COUNTRY (If other than U.S.A.): _____

I certify that I am over the age of 18, having been born on Day __/ Month __/ Year ____.

Signature: _____

WE MAIL DISTREETLY. WE DO NOT DIVULGE ANY INFORMATION ON ANY CUSTOMER FOR ANY REASON.

CR CONTACT NETWORK AD FORM

PRINT LEGIBLY IN BLOCK LETTERS. If any detail is unclear or missing, ad will be rejected and returned. State exactly how you want you ad to read in the magazine:

AD HEADLINE: _____

AD BODY: _____

_____

_____

_____

PRICING: _____ Words @ 30 cents per word X _____ issues = $ _____

Code Word: @ $5.00 X _____ issues= _____

Telephone Verification @ $5.00 (one time charge per ad) _____

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Instructions:

1. Multiply the number of words by 30 cents and multiply that times the number of issues in which you want your ad to appear.
2. If you are using a codeword (an alias only you and we know), you must multiply $5 by the number of issues in which you want the ad to appear and add to the total. If you do use a codeword, make sure it unique. Letters and numbers okay.
3. If you want to use your telephone number in the ad, you must include $10 for a one-time verification and add that to the total as well.
4. You must use your real name, an alias or initials if you use a P.O. box in your ad. We will not allow the use of "Occupant" or "Box Holder" or a blank space.
5. You may not place an ad for someone else.
6. We reserve the right to alter, re-write or reject any ad we feel is not in the best interest of this publication.
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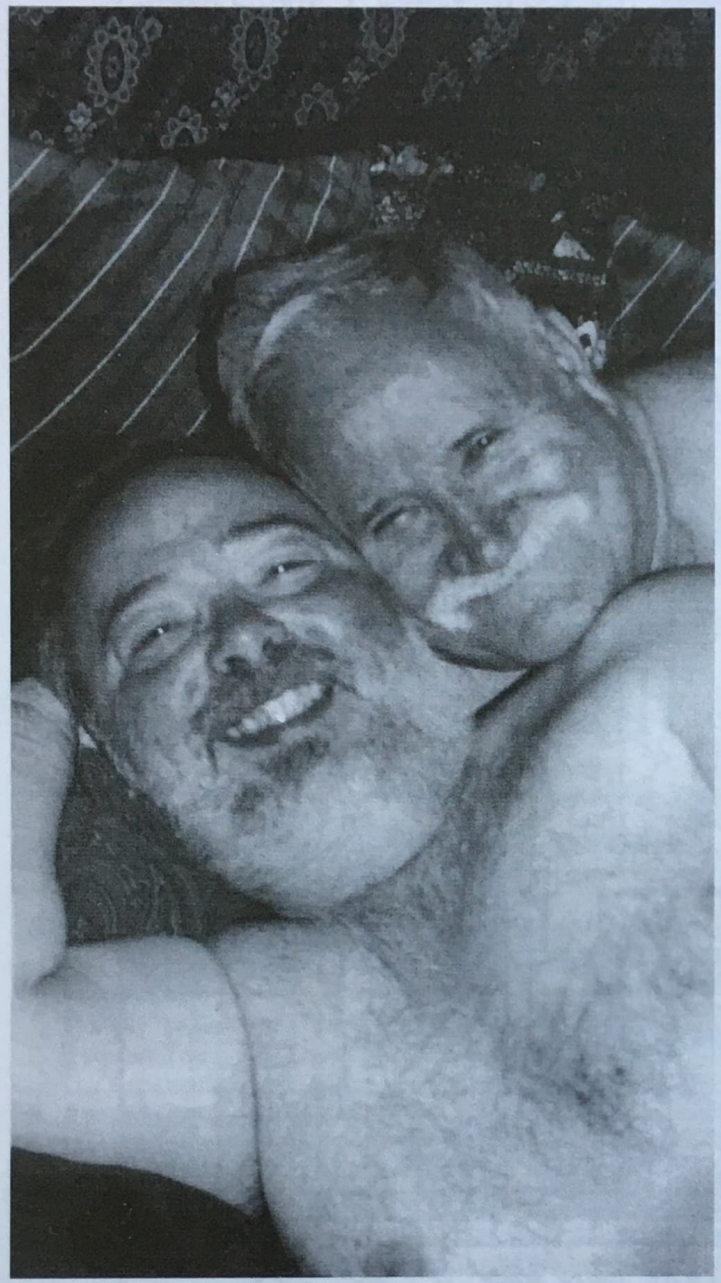
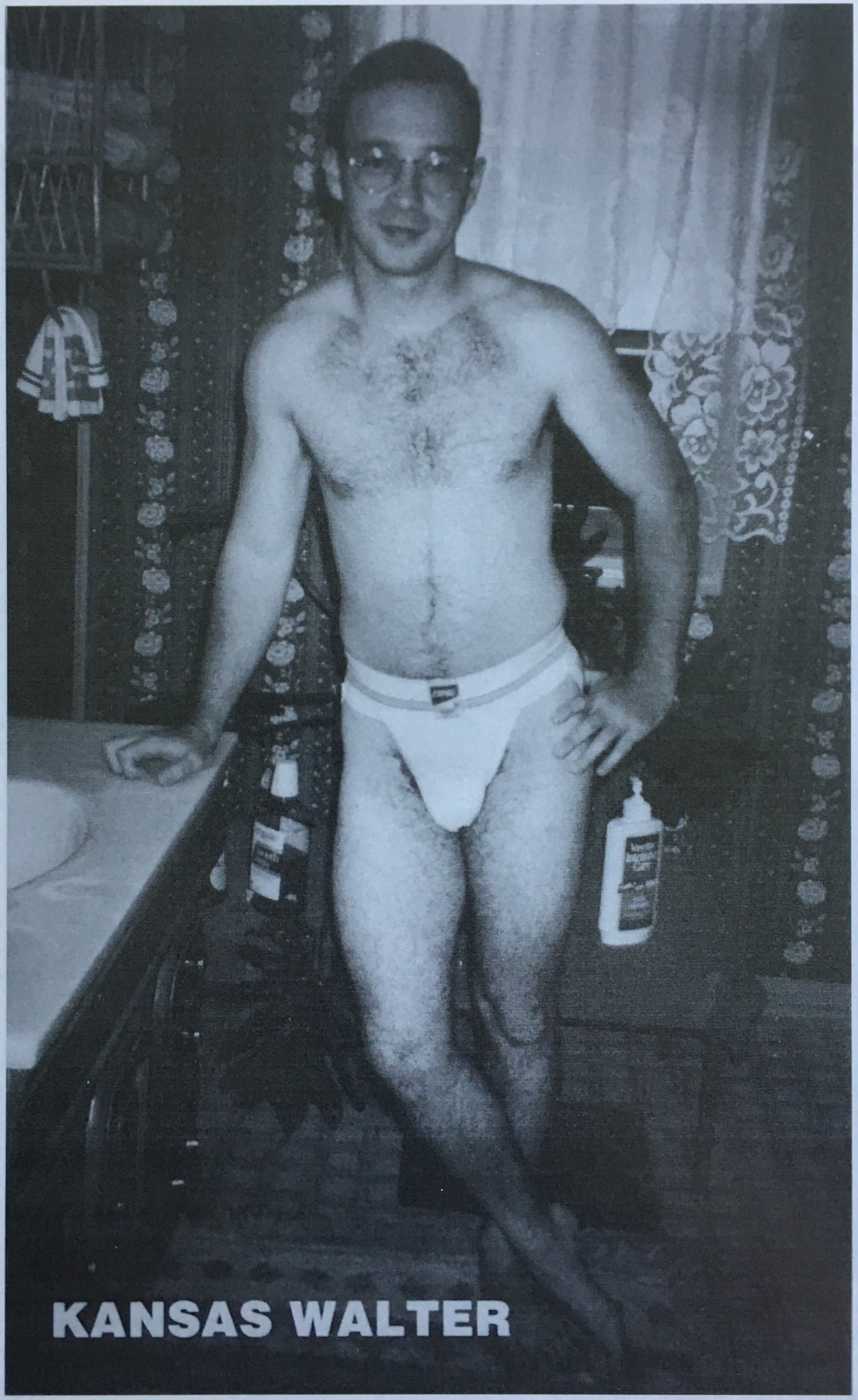
MAX BUCK

MAX, I DON'T GET IT. I THOUGHT YOU JUST CAME BACK FROM PALM SPRINGS!
I DID... BUT I FOUND A LEAD ON A FANTASTIC REAL ESTATE DEAL! NOW GET IN THE CAR, SEYMOUR! I'M GONNA NEED YOUR OBJECTIVE OPINION!
W3X45
DESERT PROPERTY
YOU'VE ALWAYS SAID THAT YOU LIKE LIVING IN BEVERLY HILLS!
THAT'S RIGHT, AND I'M NOT PLANNING TO MOVE. THIS IS INVESTMENT PROPERTY!
Smooth MOVES
A GUY I MET IS SELLING A BED & BREAKFAST WITH A DOZEN ROOMS AROUND A HUGE POOL ... DIRT CHEAP!
I DUNNO, MAX. THERE'S LOTS OF HIDDEN EXPENSES IN RUNNING A PLACE LIKE THAT. LINENS. CORNFLAKES. LEAKY FAUCETS! AND WHAT IF NOBODY COMES?!
THEY WILL. I'LL ADVERTISE!
THE DESERT GYM
Desertburgers
HOURS
DESERTMALL
Desertburgers
THE DESERT GYM
Cactus Coffee!
desert books
IT'S NOT THAT EASY. THERE ARE DOZENS OF THOSE JOINTS CATERING TO THE GAY CROWD IN THIS AREA. WHAT'S YOUR NICHE?
WELL, IT'S GONNA BE CLOTHING-OPTIONAL!
WAKE UP! SO ARE ALL THE OTHER B&B'S IN PALM SPRINGS!
OKAY, THEN MINE WILL BE NUDITY-MANDATORY!
THAT MIGHT WORK....
QUIGLEY
©1998



photos by BISCUIT

SILVER FOXX & THE STUDENT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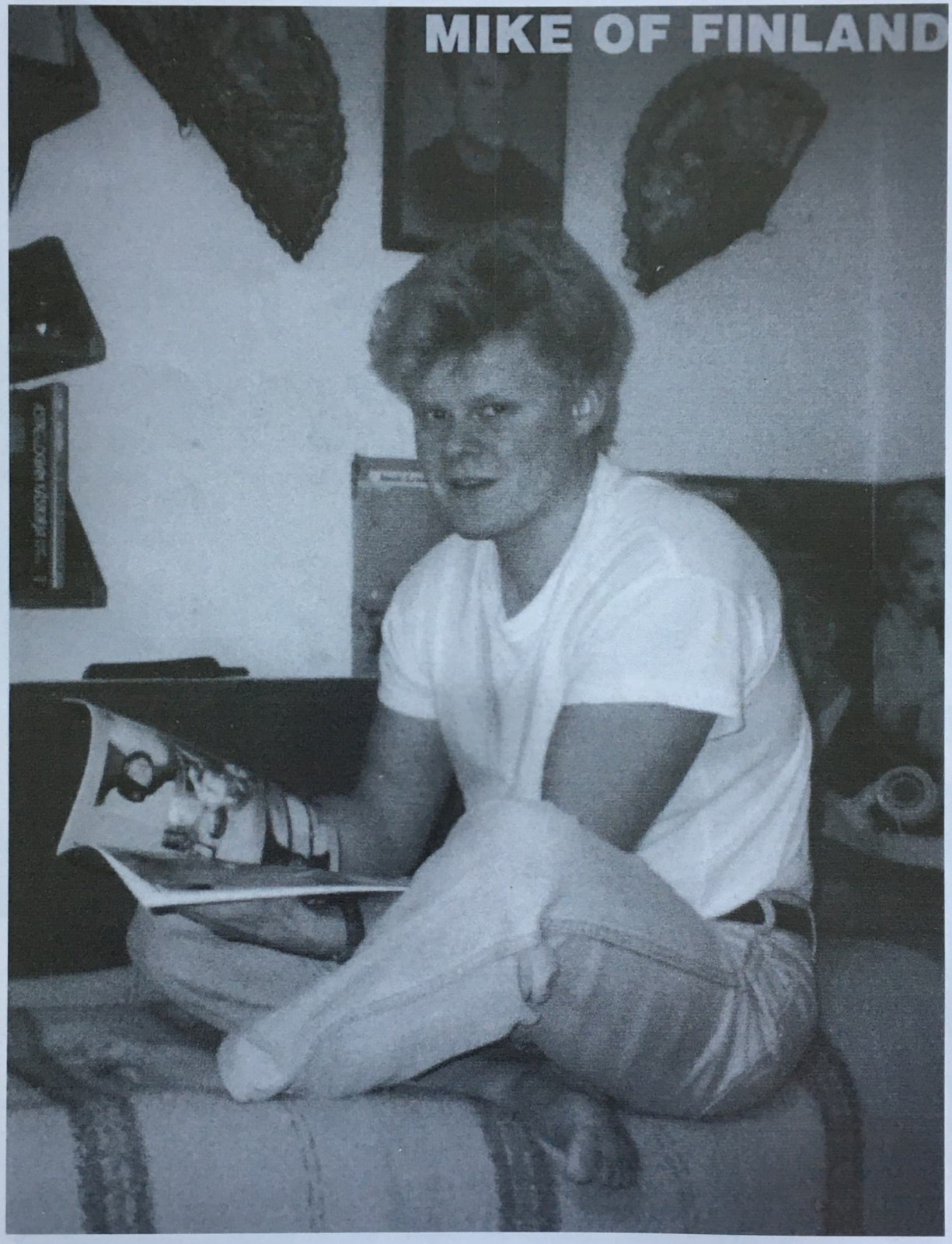
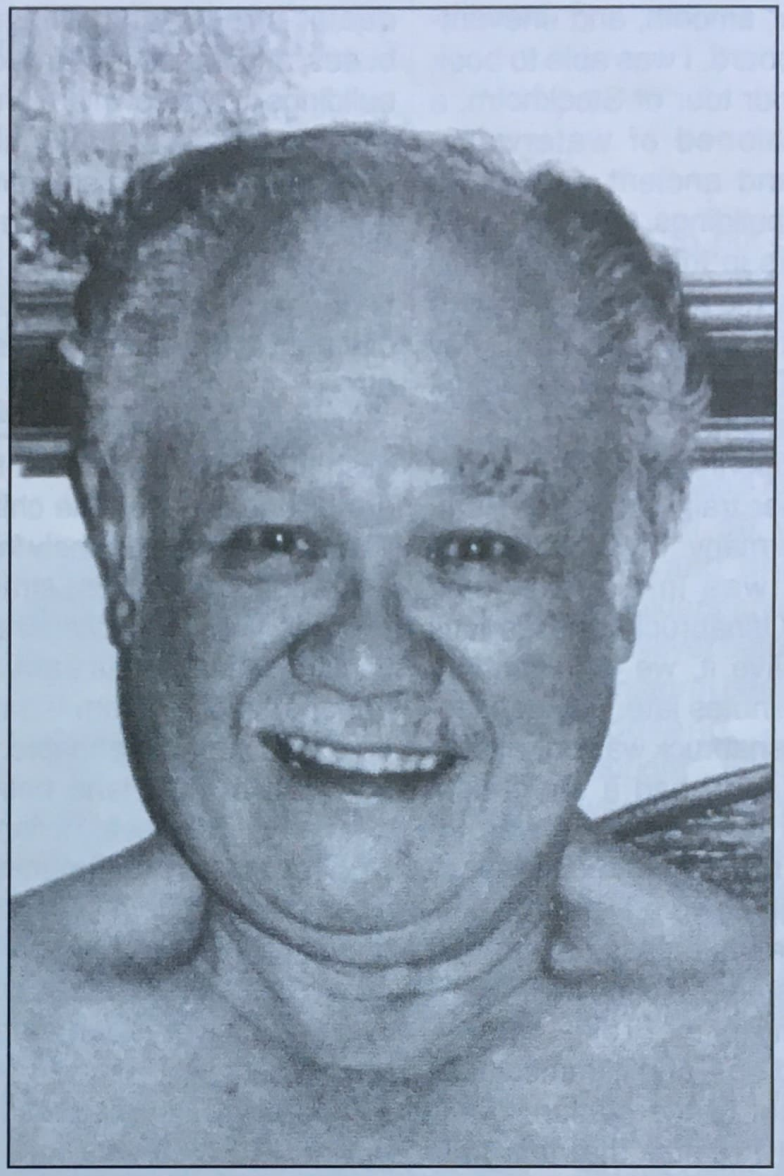

MIKE OF FINLAND

TRAVEL TRIVIA

By

Alaska Al



I have been accused of a lot of things, but being a chronic traveler is not one of them. Rather, I'd like to be remembered as one who has ventured out into the world to view its many vistas, its fabled sights, and tasted of its sweet enchantments and delectable magic. In time, one can recall a vast picture of all the wonders that can be found just a few miles from one's front door.

My latest sojourn found me winging across the Atlantic to the fabled and mysterious land of Finland, a small country sandwiched between Sweden and Russia but with a tenacious hold on its own future. From the modern city of Helsinki to the upper reaches of Lapland, home of the reindeer and their herders known as Sami, it is a country filled with a million lakes and fabled mosquitoes that can carry off chubettes. The climate, the tundra, the wildlife, and even the natives are uniquely tied to the Arctic Circle.

The Finnish people, especially the MEN, are **gorgeous**, healthy, and intensely kind to wayward visitors. Being a socialist country, their cost of living is notably high, with more than 40% of their income going toward taxes—to pay for their many perks like health and retirement benefits. Basic foods and labors come at a high price but a joy of living permeates its way through their everyday life.

For a time Sweden ruled this country, then Norway took its turn, and even the Russians tried to tame these creatures of nature. But early in the 20th century, Finland achieved independence and has carved a niche for themselves as a country of progressive thinkers and diverse doers. I expected vast differences in lifestyle but found wants and needs very much like our own. Gainful employment brings the joy of fulfillment and reward—and love is universal in whatever gauze it may hide behind. Ten days isn't a hell of a lot of time to see these fabled lands, but having a personal guide like Jyri helped tremendously—and he was extremely helpful in all avenues. I promised myself to return—soon.

The ferry ride from Helsinki to Stockholm in Sweden was aboard Viking's *Gabriella*, a floating palace filled with eager tourists buying duty-free goods like

there was no tomorrow. The overnight crossing was short and delightful, smooth, and uneventful. On board, I was able to book a four-hour tour of Stockholm, a city fashioned of waterways, parks, and ancient as well as modern buildings. Having only a few hours in this lovely city, this tour gave me an instant bird's eye view of its many splendors. My train for Copenhagen in Denmark left that night.

In Copenhagen, I transferred to another train bound for Hamburg, Germany. My last train connection was in a small town named Osnabruck, and as luck would have it, we left Hamburg seven minutes late. My connection at Osnabruck was only fifteen minutes, so I had a short eight minutes to make it. I was informed by the conductor that I had to go down a flight of stairs, cross the underpass, up another flight of stairs, and my train would be waiting for me. I did—it was—I jumped on—and it immediately pulled out of the station. Only then did I realize that this train looked too much like a local commuter. I finally found the conductor and was told—yes, I was heading east, not west, and was to get off at the next station and return to Osnabruck. My scheduled train had already left and I had visions of spending a lonely night there. But, as luck would have it, I found there was a later train to Amsterdam leaving in four hours. I dropped to my knees in thanksgiving.

Nederland (without the 's'), or Holland as the natives call their country, is quite a unique piece of property, going back to the 3rd century. This city of a million souls doubles each day with visitors and tourists, thronging their quaint streets and filling their buses and trams. Many of the buildings in Old Town are ancient, with hundreds of funky shops, bars, and restaurants catering to a myriad of tastes and clientele. The garnish facade hides a distinct charm, and there is an excitement in the air that is passionate.

Requiring eight years of English in grade school, the Dutch are bilingual—even the children. The natives are extremely friendly and eager to help lost strangers trying to find their hotel or a particular destination via tram. Their transportation system is fast, on time, and very dependable. With so much of their land being reclaimed from the sea, Holland has a rich agriculture community, with a unrivaled system of locks and bridges spanning their many canals. Amsterdam is truly, and will remain, a city of beauty and the art of living.

My being in Amsterdam was mainly to witness the Gay Games, the fifth since its beginning in San Francisco in 1982. This first game saw 1,300 athletes from 12 countries in attendance. The next games, also held in San Francisco (1986), saw a doubling of participants. In 1990, Vancouver, BC, hosted the games and again the figure doubled. New York City hosted the 1994 games and over 10,000 men and women vied for the gold. This year was the first time the games were being held in Europe, and 14,000 athletes and cultural participants were there to show their talents and skills.

Billed as "Friendship through Culture and Sports," over eight days featured the usual venues such as soccer, basketball, bodybuilding, and weightlifting but also included figure skating, ballroom dancing, table tennis, and even a choir contest which drew over 1,500 singers from eight countries around the world.

The evenings were crowded with parties, cultural events, entertainers and included two shows featuring the infamous Harvey Fierstein. His show was labeled "This is Not Going to be Pretty," a two-hour show filled with music, monologue, and jokes, and he had the crowd laughing, crying, and cheering for more. He's extremely funny in a Jewish/campy sort of way and, in front of an all-gay audience, he was at his best.

Imaging yourself at the opening ceremonies in an arena which can hold almost 90,000 fans and having it nearly filled with HOMOSEXUALS. It was reported that over 60,000 supporters were on hand to witness the evening filled with famous rock bands, dancing boys, and world famous notables. The closing ceremonies were just as lavish, filled with music and a cheering crowd wanting more.

Eight days flew by too quickly to partake of all the marvels available. But we promised ourselves to be in Sydney, Australia, in the year 2002 for the next Gay Games!

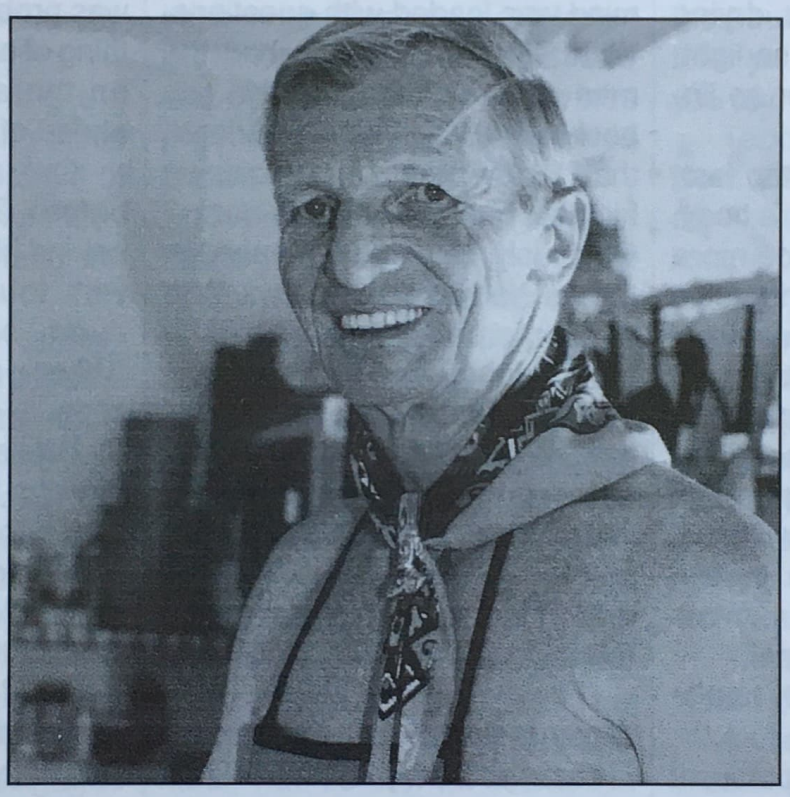
ALASKA AL is 70, 5'-8", 235#, in an open relationship, and lives in Anchorage. He likes chubby men, short, uncut, with a sense of hjmor. Just looking for fun and lots of TLC, not a lover.

REWARD FOR A GOOD SAMARITAN

By Jed Muir

The rain was beating down much heavier now, with great sheets of water sloshing across the windshield of Gabe's new motor home. He was now headed for his home in Atlanta where, at age 71, he lived with his 44-year-old boyfriend, Eddie. They had been together for eight years, and each of them thought he was the luckiest man alive.

Suddenly, through the pelting rain, he made out the figure of a man alongside the highway frantically waving his arms for help. Gabe knew at once that the young fellow needed more than just a ride, as his face was full of agitated desperation, pleading for someone to stop and give him aid.



Gabe slowed down, carefully easing the big rig off the pavement. When completely stopped, he opened the door on the passenger side, leaned out into the wet weather, and beckoned the man to hurry out of the rain. As the drenched figure approached, Gabe grabbed his arm and helped him into the RV, slamming the door shut after him.

Gabe saw the dried blood and swollen bruises on the young man's face. "What in the world happened to you?" he asked, kneeling down to unlace the victim's shoes.

I got beat up and left on the road," was the pointedly brief answer. "What's your name?" Gabe asked, placing the soaked shoes on the welcome mat and leading his new passenger over to the tile floor by the kitchen sink.

"Teddy," his new charge replied. "They call me Teddy."

"Well, Teddy," Gabe continued, his voice authoritative but friendly, "First, shed those wet clothes so we can get you warm and dry. You can throw them into the sink there while I get you something else to put on." He was back in a moment with a heavy terry cloth robe and a couple of large towels, one of which he handed to the shivering hitchhiker. With the other, Gabe began drying the man's hair, helping him off with his shirt and drying his shoulders and back.

Never before had a rainstorm been such a Godsend, Gabe thought. For here he was, helping a handsome but dripping wet fellow get naked, then drying him off to boot; and it was all so innocent and apparently so appreciated by the young man himself, who now had unbuckled his pants and was allowing Gabe to assist in removing them.

"Where you bound for?" Gabe tried to sound matter-of-fact.

"Birmingham," was the reply.

Gabe was delighted with the answer. That was almost as far as he was going and, though he truly did have Teddy's welfare at heart, he was still carnal-minded enough to take advantage of any sensual situation that might present itself. Without a word, he turned Teddy towards him, boldly and vigorously toweling his chest, on down to his waist, then around

to his lower back and buttocks, drying them in as routine a manner as possible while, at the same time, openly checking out the heretofore hidden attributes now visible up front. He was delighted with what he saw.

Meanwhile, Teddy had stopped any pretense at all of drying himself, apparently quite happy to leave the entire job to his benefactor. This move didn't go unnoticed by a grateful Gabe. Holding the towel more loosely, he brushed it nonchalantly over Teddy's penis and balls, drying them with a touch, ever so light, ever so casual, and ever so lingering.

He didn't want to go too fast, however. In drying Teddy's body, he couldn't help but notice more cuts on his butt, back, and neck. He had indeed been beaten but, as yet, Gabe had no idea how it occurred. He would approach things gingerly. One encouraging sign was that despite the bruises, he had been willing—even eager—to let Gabe dry him off after his bath in the rain. "Your butt's been cut," Gabe said.

"I know" was all Teddy had to offer.

Gabe decided not to pursue it further. "I'll get some Neosporin and take care of the cuts."

When Gabe returned, Teddy stood perfectly still as Gabe cleaned the wounds and applied the ointment.

The once-cold and drenched hitchhiker was now dry and, judging from the ruddy glow of his skin, warm as well. When Gabe was finished dressing the cuts, he held the robe out for Teddy to slip on. He spoke in a low voice. "There, you're warm and dry." Then, a sudden realization hit him, "Are you hungry?" he asked.

The young fellow nodded. "A little," he said.

"Let me fix you some breakfast, then," Gabe said gently.

He hurried over to the kitchen and soon Teddy was tying into a man-size omelette, cottage fried potatoes, whole-wheat muffins, and a cup of good ol' Maxwell House.

Gabe busied himself cleaning up in the kitchen, leaving his guest to eat undisturbed, but his mind was loaded with questions. What kind of a beating had the man endured? Had it been gay bashing? (Why had he wondered that?) How come he had cuts on his ass, but no rips in his pants? Obviously, he had been naked or at least had his pants down. Willingly or forced? Gabe was naturally curious—and also excited.

Breakfast was over, it was time to get rolling. "You're probably tired and in need of some rest or even a good nap." Gabe pointed to the bedroom in the rear, "I'll drive and you can join me up front when you wake up."

Teddy grabbed his arm, "Thank you," he murmured, "Thank you very much." Then added, as an afterthought, "The breakfast was good."

"I'm glad, partner," Gabe acknowledged. "You rest, I'll drive. See you later."

The rain was still coming down steadily, but Gabe was quite overjoyed with his day so far. He had learned long ago that helping another human being could bring a joy unequaled by anything else, and there seemed to be even more this time, for it wasn't just another human being. It was a young man for whom Gabe already felt a special concern—and attraction. Suddenly, he was looking forward to a far more interesting trip—and certainly a far less lonely one.

He tried not to speculate too much about his sleeping guest. Fortunately, the downpour was making it necessary for him to watch the road closely, but there were certainly a lot of unanswered questions. He was glad that Teddy was feeling safe enough to nap. Right now, that was probably the most important thing of all. He would concentrate on the stretch of Highway 99 ahead of him.

Only a couple of hours passed before Gabe heard movement behind him, and a smiling Teddy, with tousled hair and sleepy-eyed, sat down beside him. "Where are we?" he wanted to know.

"We should make Bakersfield by noon," Gabe was happy to be talking to him. "I thought we'd find a laundromat, park the rig out in front, and fix lunch while I wash your clothes."

Teddy shook his head and chuckled. "I don't believe all this! I'm pretty lucky."

Teddy was feeling comfortable with this older man and was glad to be rested enough to sit next to him, talking. Of course, there were some things he wouldn't be talking about, such as the fact that he was gay and liked older men; and how, right at this moment, he was reveling in the smell and feel of Gabe's robe on his own bare skin; or how, previously, while standing there naked being toweled dry, he had felt a twinge in his cock that had very

nearly blossomed into a telltale erection. This would have proven disastrous. Or would it? Had he detected masked intent in Gabe's touch? He decided to be cautious, but receptive. This had worked many times before, and Teddy was excited.

As for Gabe, he decided to test the waters regarding how far he could go with this provocative wayfarer. He felt there was a chance the guy was gay and aware of it. But, if not, no matter; Gabe would delight in continuing to be just a Good Samaritan assisting a fellow traveler.

Instead of questioning the boy, even delicately, along those lines, he hit upon the thought of half-revealing his own orientation to see if Teddy would take the bait.

"This motor home is brand-new," Gabe informed his passenger. "The man I live with hasn't seen it yet." Teddy reacted with a bit of a start, Gabe noticed. But the startled look soon gave way to a rather sheepish grin which, unbeknown to Gabe, was caused by the fact that Gabe's remark had caught Teddy in a sexual reverie of his own. A reverie that included Gabe! Two men engaged in a primitive dance, sounding each other out, hoping to mate. Two men hoping to mate with each other.

They took a Bakersfield exit, found a laundromat, and parked nearby. Gabe grabbed Teddy's clothes, some soap, a few quarters and headed in. "Ill be back in a minute, and we'll fix some lunch."

When the freshly laundered clothes were back in the RV, Gabe wondered if the mating dance would continue when Teddy removed his robe and went about getting dressed. He wasn't disappointed. Teddy took his time taking off his robe; picking up shirt, trousers, and socks nonchalantly, showing Gabe every side of him. Gabe did his part, too, following Teddy's every move with an admiring look.

The afternoon passed quickly. The two men were at ease with each other and kept up a lively conversation. Gabe showed Teddy the minor intricacies of driving a motor home so that later on in this long journey he could have Gabe take the wheel. Teddy was pleased with this confidence shown him by his new hero.

When it was time to stop for the night, Gabe didn't know if Teddy was aware that additional sleeping space could be created by opening the sleeper sofa, but he decided to act as though the two of them would be sharing the same queen-size bed. Surprisingly enough, when bedtime arrived, Teddy also assumed such was how it would go.

Gabe turned the spread and sheet down and slipped out of his clothes. Teddy, on the other hand, was somewhat hesitant in taking his pants off and, when he did, Gabe understood why. He had a very, very stiff boner which he tried desperately to hide.

"It's okay, kid," Gabe assured him. "No problem."

Gabe turned out the light and the two men crawled into bed. Teddy lay on his side, his back to Gabe. I'm sorry, Gabe," Teddy said quietly.

"Don't be sorry, my friend, be glad!" was Gabe's enthusiastic response. The were both quiet, both wondering, both wanting.

Teddy move restlessly. "I sure hope I can sleep," he said. "Sometimes when this happens, I can't get to sleep."

"Don't you know what to do about it?" Gabe was half-teasing.

Teddy hesitated. "Yes," he said softly. He sounded shy, but eager.

Gabe decided it was time to take things in hand himself—one thing in particular. He moved closer, then reached around his bedfellow's waist and took hold of the troublesome hard-on. "I'll do it for you," he whispered. "Then you can sleep."

Teddy responded readily. Now they both knew and, suddenly, Teddy wanted it to last and last. Occasionally, he would put his own hand down on Gabe's to slow him down or speed him up, mixing long, slow strokes with short rapid ones, and sometimes stopping altogether when an ejaculation was eminent. He leaned his head back and whispered, "I'd like yours in my mouth."

"I want yours, too," Gabe admitted. They knew what to do.

An hour later, they fell asleep in each other's arms.

Next morning, after taking time to make love again, they headed on out. Gabe was again at the wheel, but planned on turning some of the driving over to his new buddy. Teddy joined him in the passenger's seat, and Gabe knew from his serious manner that he wanted to talk. It turned out to be a rather lengthy discourse, and Gabe was spellbound.

Teddy began: "I want to thank you for everything, but especially

for last night. You made everything all right again ... I mean having sex with men. I wanted you from the moment I jumped into your motor home but, because of what had happened to me back there on the road, I felt ashamed, even though sometimes I felt that you were attracted to me too. I kept feeling different things and last night, when my dick was so stiff and wouldn't go down, I didn't want to take my pants off and have you see it; but I did want you to see it too. I was embarrassed but, when you reached around and grabbed it, I was so happy, so very happy."

Here, he stopped for a breather, then continued: "I'd better tell you about the beating. You see, I was part of it. That guy, Rick, said I was to blame for what happened." Teddy was shaking his head now, but went on. "I was on the outskirts of Sacramento, trying to bum a ride, when this red pickup stopped. The guy driving was thirty-eight or so, nice looking and real friendly. He asked me all the usual stuff. Where was I going? Why? How old was I? Things like that, you know. I thought he was pretty neat and, to tell you the truth, I was looking him over wondering how he'd be. His questions took a different turn, wanting to know if I had a girl or if I'd ever fucked one. When my answer was 'no,' he became even friendlier, patting me on the knee, sort of rubbing the inside of my leg. He said there were better things than girls and laughed suggestively. To tell you the truth, I was all for this kind of talk and was letting his hand travel up the inside of my leg to my crotch, where I developed a boner right away and this guy, Rick, saw it. All of a sudden, he was driving with purpose, as though he knew exactly where he was going; and, sure enough, two exists later, he turned off the highway, then onto a dirt road that led into a wooded area where he stopped the truck.

"I thought we were going to have some fun, and at first we did. He got my pants off, fooled around with my cock. Then, we both got naked, masturbating and stuff like that when he showed me a Polaroid camera and wanted to know if he could take a few pictures. I said, sure, why not? He took some of me just standing there, then some jacking off and the like. Next he got out a tripod, set it up with an expensive-looking camera to take different shots of the two of us. All this time, he's being as nice as he can be, laughing and talking, feeling me up, having a real good time, using the self-timer to take different shots of us together, his dick getting harder and harder. Then he wanted me to stand up near the door of the truck, lean over the seat, so he could stick his dick in my butt. Well, I'd never had that before and didn't want it then. That's when things got ugly. He took a wicked looking knife out of the glove compartment, told me to 'dammed well bend over,' and when I still wouldn't do it, he cut me on the face and arm. He told me to turn around and bend over and, Gabe, I did. I was scared. He tried to get in me, but couldn't. He was screaming all kinds of crazy things, telling me that he was a decent man and that I made him do things like this. He started hitting me, cutting me now and then with the knife, and yelling about how he went to church every Sunday, sang in the choir, and was a God-fearing person. He said when I lifted my thumb to flag him down, my eyes looked into his with evil, sinful thoughts, and God ordered him to do these things to me to punish me. I really thought I was going to be killed. The only time he stopped was when he took more pictures of himself hitting me, slashing me, and trying to rape me, humping away on my rump, like a dog does on your leg.

"He finally got his rocks off, all over the place, and was dancing around yelling 'Hallelujah! Hallelujah! I've seen God's wrath and it's mighty!' and a bunch of stuff like that. He was still spouting this crap when he threw my clothes out of the truck and left."

Gabe was stunned. Even in his wildest speculations, he had never visualized anything as traumatizing as this. He longed to stop the rig and take Teddy in his arms for comforting, but when he looked over at his friend, he found him smiling. "I'm all right now," Teddy's tone was positive. "You made things all right again." Then he added, "I'm ready to drive now, if you want."

Gabe pulled the motor home off the interstate and the two men exchanged places, but not before he wrapped his arms about his friend reassuringly. "You're safe now," he said, "And you had nothing whatsoever to do with what happened to you."

Teddy was happy. It felt good to have talked to someone about his ordeal, especially someone as caring as Gabe. His affection for this guy was enormous, and he knew it was genuine and well-de-

served.

The next couple of days were filled with talk and endless sharing, striving to know each other, heart and soul. The nights were filled with nakedness, bodies close, touching, feeling, exploring.

On the fourth night out, they realized this would probably be their final one together. They picked a park just west of New Orleans, tucked away behind a gas station and a motel.

Entering the park, Teddy sat up with a start. "There's his truck! There's his dammed truck," he shouted, pointing to a red pickup in the motel parking lot.

The motor home came to a sudden stop. "Are you sure?" Gabe wanted to know.

"Yes." Teddy was out of the RV in a flash. Gabe followed him. The two men inspected the truck closely. "That's it for sure, Gabe," Teddy exclaimed.

"Good," Gabe was excited, too. "Now we've got the bastard!"

"Oh, no, God no!" Teddy cried. "He's got a knife and probably a gun. Don't go in there."

"I'm not going in there, Teddy, the sheriff is. Come on."

They returned to the motor home where a serious discussion followed. Teddy realized if they called the law, he would have to tell them everything, including his own part in the affair. He was most reluctant.

"What's the difference if they know we're gay?" Gabe wanted to know. "We don't live around here and even if the sheriff is a gay-hating redneck, he still has to protect us."

"But Rick will only deny it. We don't have any proof," Teddy pointed out. "He threw that knapsack away miles and miles ago."

"But not the pictures, Teddy, not the pictures!" Gabe felt triumphant. "That's where we've got him, don't you see? He takes pictures to keep them. That's why he's so prepared, not only with a camera, but a tripod."

Teddy still wasn't convinced.

"Do you want him to haul out those pictures of you, naked and helpless, anytime he wants, and jack off while looking at you, gloating over what he did to you?"

Teddy nodded, and Gabe called 911 at a pay phone adjacent to the motel. A short time later, and the sheriff himself was knocking on their door. Gabe invited him in and the three sat down while Teddy explained to him what had happened.

Sheriff Townsend was probably about fifty-five, medium height, medium weight, a real decent looking fellow. He listened to Teddy attentively but without much emotion. Not even the obvious homosexual aspect caused a stir in his demeanor.

The sheriff took a moment to reflect after Teddy completed his story, then he spoke: "If what you say about the snapshots is true, we can get a search warrant and arrest him. You'll have to accompany me to his room, however, to identify him."

The next hour was hectic. Phone calls were made, a search warrant procured, and the motel manager notified. The sheriff was a man of few words, but his treatment of Teddy was sympathetic. Gabe couldn't help but admire him.

Rick, needless to say, was startled beyond belief to find one of his victims and a law-enforcement officer confronting him at the door.

The pictures were discovered of course, examined, and turned over to a deputy. Rick was hauled off to jail, but the sheriff stayed behind to clear up any questions as to what procedure would follow. Charges would be filed, Rick would be jailed, and a trial date would be set.

Viewing the pictures had disturbed the sheriff profoundly, and his sympathy and concern for Teddy were obvious, which was a huge relief to Gabe, who wouldn't have been surprised at a more homophobic approach. Instead, he was treated to the mind-blowing sight of the sheriff putting his arm around Teddy's shoulder.

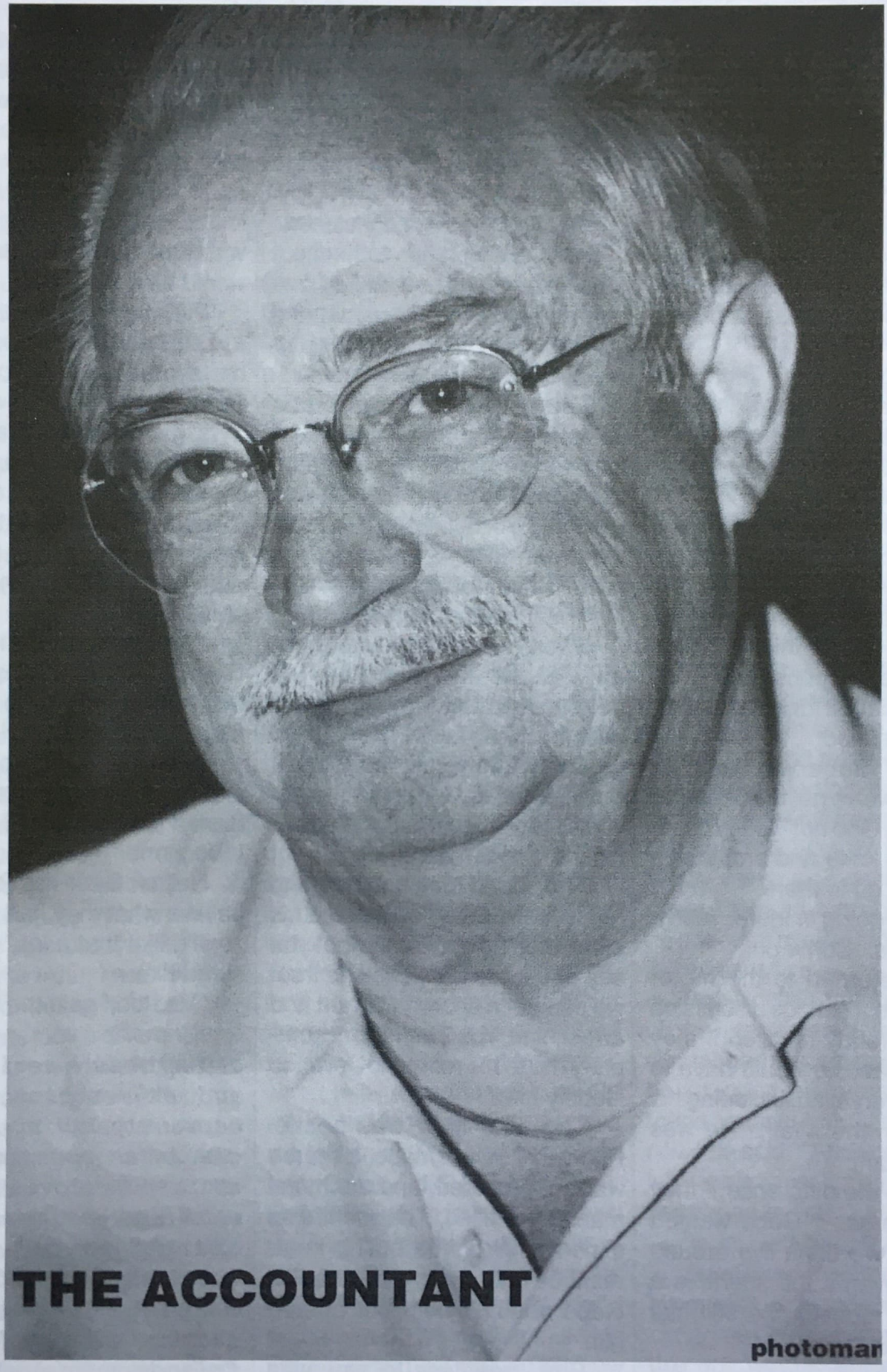
"You'll have to come back for the trial," Sheriff Townsend said. "And when you do, so you won't feel all alone or fearful, I thought you could come out to my place and stay. If you want to, that is. I have a farm outside of town, and I live alone."

Neither Gabe nor Teddy could believe what they had heard.

"I'd like that a lot," Teddy assured him.

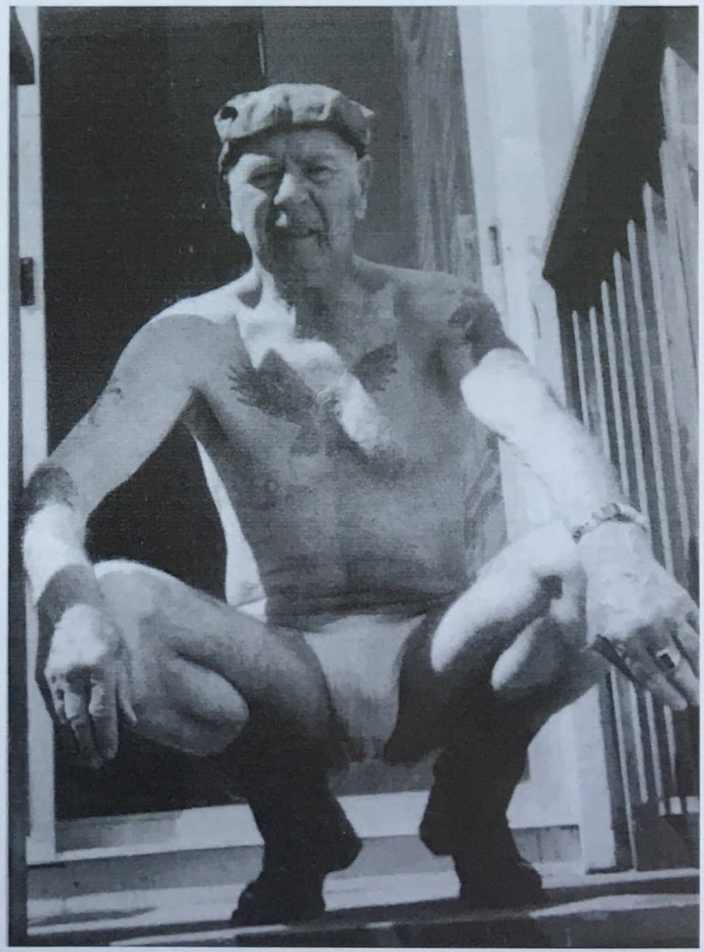
"Me, too," said the sheriff.

JED MUIR is a retired chef and ex-merchant seaman, currently living in Georgia in an open relationship. He loves sports, walking, swimming, cycling, tennis, golf, watching pro football, writing, photography, nudism, and cooking for friends.


THE ACCOUNTANT
photomar

FAST EDDIE chesterfield

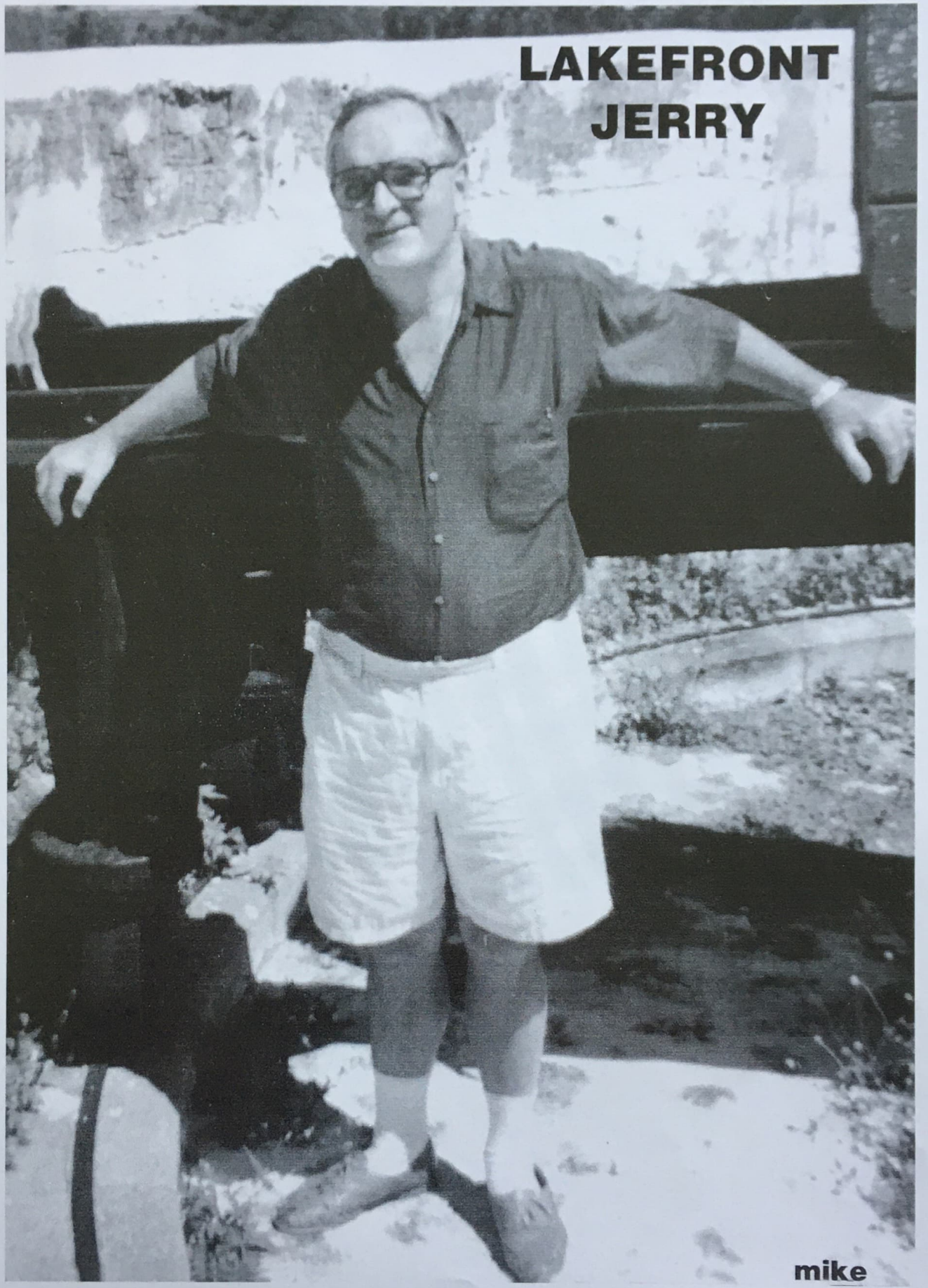
JOHN SUCRE



ROD PRICE

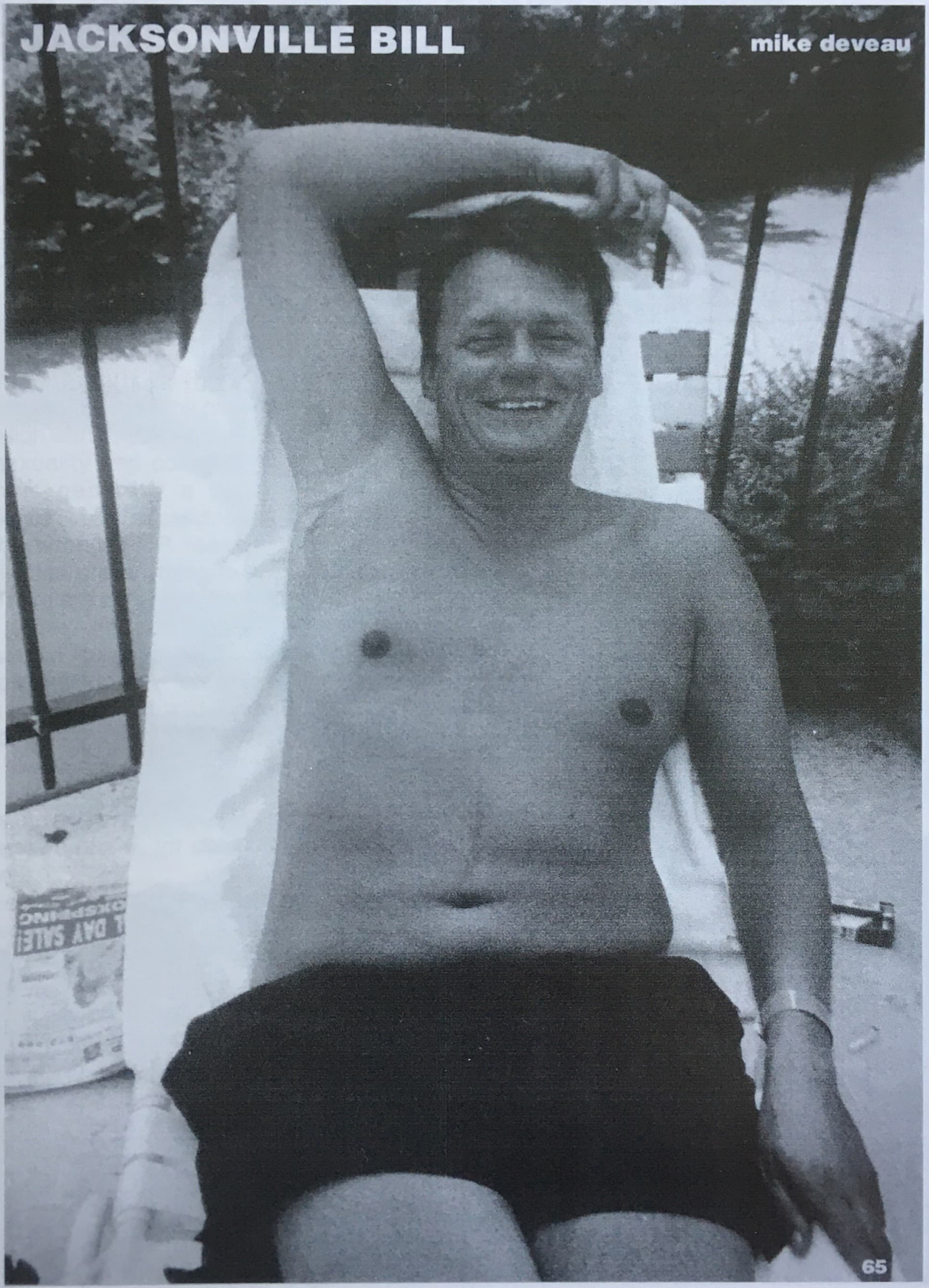
TRICKY
DICK
mike deveau

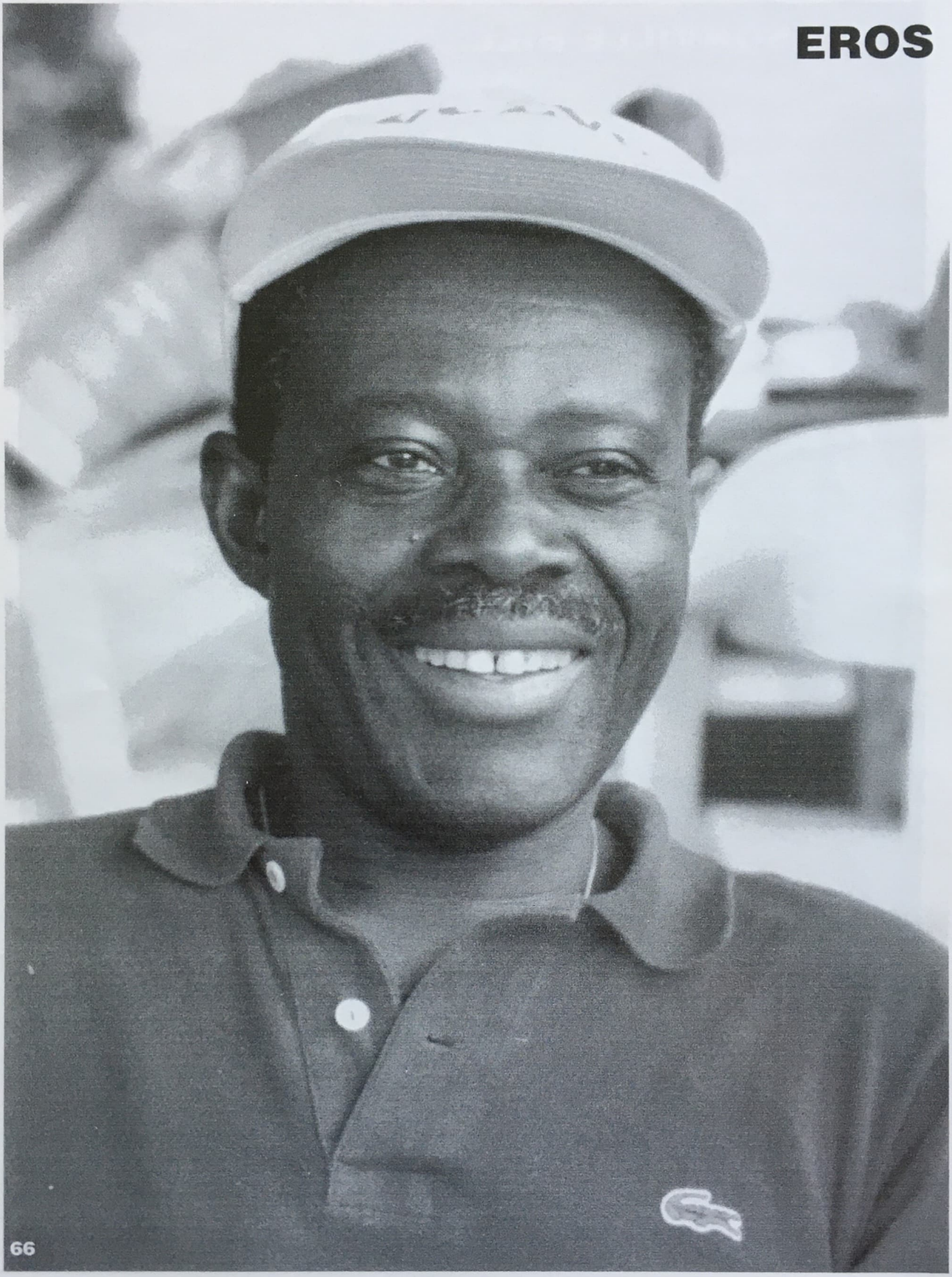
HARLYNN
tom


LAKEFRONT
JERRY
mike

JACKSONVILLE BILL

mike deveau





The Old Man in Literature

by TIM WALDOCK

This piece is a selection of reviews of novels and stories in which significant characters are older and are treated as normal human beings who are relevant to society. Gay literature is especially guilty of being ageist, and it is rare to find a character over forty in a gay novel - this can be partly explained by the natural obsession with coming-to-terms-with-sexuality and coming-out which is generally a youth experience (well, that assumption may be wrong if CR readers' experiences are anything to go by). There are a few gay novels with older characters but mainstream literature has more examples. Here are a few which I have chanced upon, and I hope that you will enjoy them, and that a few extra sales will encourage more like them. None of the stories or writers published in CR are reviewed here, for obvious reasons.

The title for this piece was inspired by a short story *The Fat Man in History* by Booker prize winning Australian author Peter Carey. This is a rather disturbing tale set in a future post-revolution era where fat people are so reviled and scorned that they have to live on the fringes of society. I would not recommend reading this if you want affirmation or a feel-good factor, but it is well written and describes the characters in a literal fashion without any sense of ridicule or pathos, although they certainly are portrayed as "victims".

The *Swimming Pool Library* by Alan Hollinghurst became a British Gay Classic soon after it was published in 1988, possibly because it is a combination of sexy and very good clever writing. On first reading it seemed to be very inclusive of the older man, partly because the twenty-five-year-old narrator befriends a man in his eighties, and there is a continuing hint that something might happen between them. In reality the main character is typically narcissistic and is mostly attracted to younger men, although there is a bit of flexibility and a good racial mix in his lustings, including a fortyish black man. Other older men do feature reasonably often, but sometimes the descriptions are a little brutal, although never dismissive or condemning. There is one wonderful conversation worth quoting from here, where the young man has lost out in love (or lust?):

'On the other hand, I do believe that the heart, and more particularly the willy, have some very strange ways. It's just possible, that a handsome eighteen-year-old could prefer a waddling fifty-year-old to someone as beautiful and well-endowed as me.'

It is well worth reading, as is his more recent novel *The Folding Star* which was shortlisted for the Booker Prize a few years ago. Hollinghurst's style may not suit all readers as it can be a little literary or obscure, and the story lines do tend to jump around somewhat. Try reading a few pages or borrow from a library before shelling out your cash.

Alan Hollinghurst's latest, *The Spell* is much more straightforward in style and more conventional in story line: it is about the intertwined relationships of four gay men, three of whom are in their forties. There are quite a few references to younger men being attracted to older men, although in this context the "older" men are still early middle aged. He does not make an issue of this, it is dealt with as being in the natural scheme of things.

Another British novel by a less well known author David Evans is *A Cat In The Tulips*. This is a charming and terribly English story featuring two old friends (in both senses) Ned and Norman. Although only one of them is gay, they have been friends for such a long time that they behave like a married couple. Both having lost partners in the past they are now dependant on each other, leading to a clever study of close friendship. The understated storyline and characterisations ring true for an English couple of

their age group, although American readers might find it a bit "quaint", and the plot somewhat tame. The only downside to this novel was the fair number of typographical errors in the copy I read.

The Untouchable by John Banville is another study of long-term friendships and in this case betrayal, but very different from the last novel. It is about a group of British communist spies, very obviously based on the famous spy scandals in Britain. It is not a conventional thriller, and is told in a series of reminiscences by one of the spies, now an old man. The story is a clever interweaving of his two double lives: that of a double agent, and that of a married man who realises his homosexuality, having married his best friend's sister (subjugation of desire?). The narration takes the characters through from young men to old, and there are continued descriptions of lust, emotions and physical characteristics right to the end, although the sex is not in graphic detail.

It seems that novels with older gay characters often revolve around long and sometimes fraught friendships. Such a one is Robert C.Reinhart's *A History of Shadows* which is very cleverly put together as a history of being gay in America in the last fifty years. It tells the tangled stories of four gay men in the form of interviews, but it reads like a novel. Early on in the story older men do not feature, but it is very interesting as a study of how gay men had to behave then. Descriptions of events during World War II and the McCarthy period are equally interesting, especially to one who did not live through either. As they age you can see them developing into the characters who are narrating through flashbacks. Towards the end one of the men in his sixties has an affair with a much younger man; he relates all his insecurities about his body and desirability; he is worried that his lover must be using him. But in the event this is disproved when the relationship lasts quite a few years. This book works well on two levels: as an entertaining novel, and as a more serious historical study.

Mainstream writing is perhaps less obsessed with youth than the gay world is. An extraordinary American writer is E. Annie Proulx whose characters are always real, of all ages, down to earth and often down on their luck. Her writing style is very powerful and takes a bit of getting used to, but it is really worth persevering with if you don't like it at first. Her collection of short stories, *Heart Songs* features many older characters who really come to life, particularly the men. In one story of a fishing trip, the central character earlier described as a white haired man strips off all his clothes to wade into the water to fish – I found the scene very erotically charged, although I doubt it was intended that way.

Annie Proulx's most recent book, a novella called *Brokeback Mountain* is quite sensational, not only in content but in the gripping unsentimental style of her storytelling. It is about two ranch hands in Wyoming who fall into a passionate relationship, then both move on into doomed marriages. The story of their lives and how they deal with their sexuality is traced over the next twenty or so years. Although the characters are young when they first meet, they age through the story; but what should appeal to CR readers is their raw masculinity, and perhaps echoes of past lives of the many (once) married readers. It is amazing that a renowned mainstream author should tackle such a controversial subject; and it is a testament to her talent that she gets into the heads of the characters so successfully. Read it, it is quite simply, brilliant.

Mainstream author Wallace Stegner dealt with old age in *The Spectator Bird* in a masterly fashion for which he won a National Book Award. The story intertwines current events in the life of the sixty-nine-year-old narrator and his wife, with reminiscences of a friendship twenty years earlier. He gives a good insight into the mind of a slightly grumpy older man which should make good reading for younger and older men alike. It is elegantly written yet makes compulsive reading, despite not being "action filled".

Barbara Kingsolver's *Pigs in Heaven* is an interesting novel about a family rediscovering their previously unknown Indian roots in the Cherokee Nation. The reason I mention it here, apart from the fact that it is a good read, is that the mother of the main character forms a relationship with an old man (not that she is young herself). Although it is not a major part of the plot but it is nicely woven in as if nothing could be more natural in the world. It is nice to see some of the other

characters encouraging the relationship too.

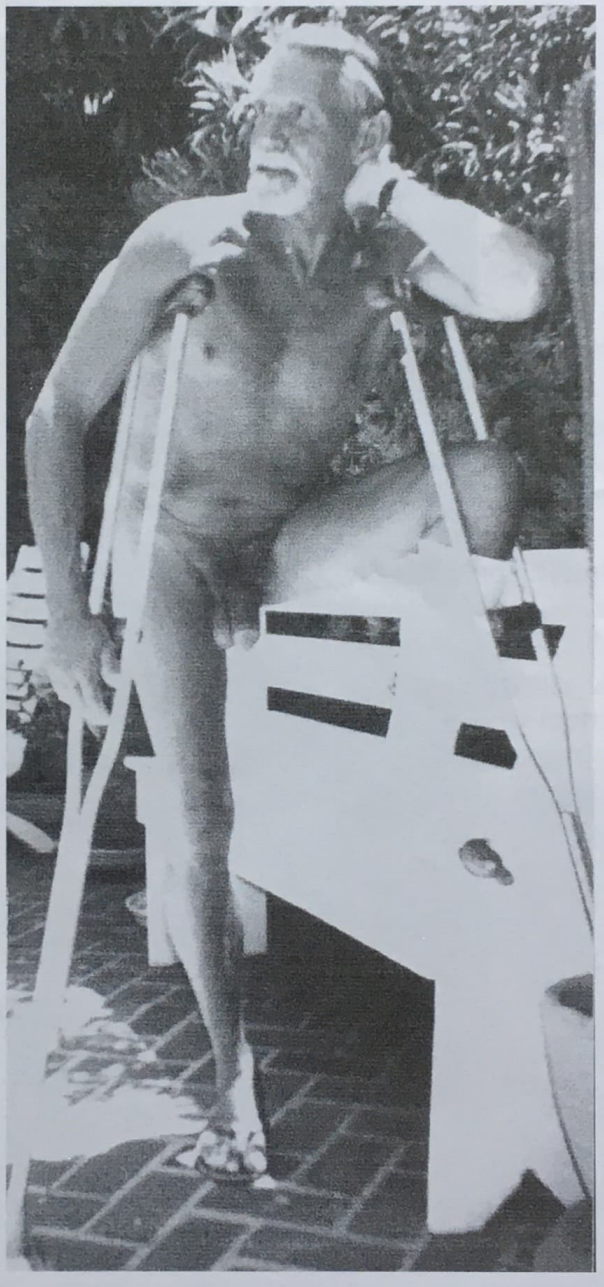
There are a couple of books which just sneak into this review due to the primary characters being middle aged, rather than old – but what the hell, at least they are not youth obsessed. The first is *Wings in the Snow* by Jim Oliver – a cautionary tale about past deeds coming home to roost for a 46 year old surgeon. It makes compulsive reading as Theo's life seems to be unravelling, culminating in him being forced to deal with a child, the result of his offer to be a "no strings attached" sperm donor for a friend. *The Biker Below the Downs* by British author Graeme Woolaston is another novel which also has an interesting slant on the gay father situation. Although this is certainly not a literary masterpiece, the storyline is clever: a middle aged Scot on holiday in England has a chance meeting with two young gay men that he is attracted to, only to discover that one is a son that he never knew he had.

An Immoral Code by Caro Fraser is an interesting study of a middle aged gay man who has also become a father by a marriage of convenience. Again there are several instances where various different people are attracted to slightly older men – and this is treated in a matter of fact way. This female author may be demonstrating that women seem to be attracted to a wider range of age groups than men are.

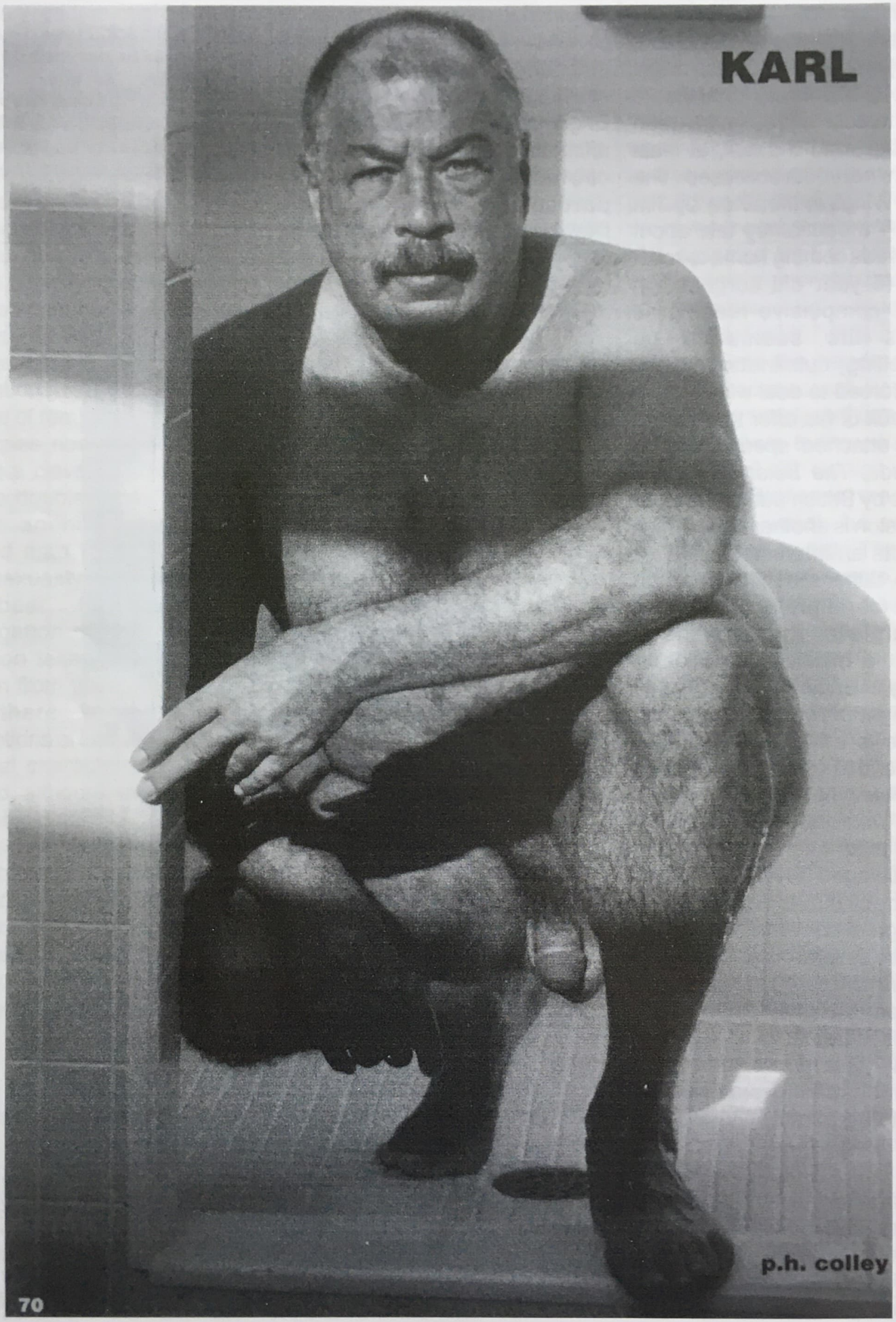
And finally, a book which is neither a novel nor does it feature older men: *Heaven on Wheels* by Indian writer Firdaus Kanga, is an account of his travels as a wheelchair bound gay man in Britain. Not only is it an entertaining and well written book showing great insight into life in England, it is also uplifting and affirmative which should strike a chord with older readers, particularly those who are likewise confined to a wheelchair.

TIM WALDOCK lives in Sydney with his life partner 19 years his senior. He would love to hear from other aspiring writers living in Sydney and would especially enjoy getting feedback from around the world from this article.

OUCH!



Popular model, PETER H. missed the Gathering in Orlando because of a broken foot. He vows not to miss New Orleans, however, and has already registered. Have you?
(Wish we could have signed the cast.)


KARL
p.h. colley

THEY SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY

Another fleet year. Bruce says, "Tomorrow marks fourteen years together."

"My God! Are you sure?" I ask, kissing him on his left temple, nibbling his ear. It is also Zelda's birthday, so we sing "Happy Birthday," bewildering her.

Absurd convention bills and worthless 7-grand checks are filed away for future angst as I start work on the NEW CR. Just as I redesign page three, a fierce microbe pays a surprise visit, and I find myself surrounded by paramedics. *Heart's okay, blood pressure's fine, so no internal bleeding. Probably should go to the hospital. We'll take you if you want. No? Can you drive him, Mr. Vaughan?*

Bruce nods, his face ashen. The polite and caring young men leave.

Banishing Bruce to safer quarters, I tough it out through the night until the Pepto Bismol finally stays down and I learn to catnap on the pot. The next day I sleep as Bruce comes down with a less-virulent dose. I help him as much as I can, but my body feels punched out from the waist up.

Over the Fourth of July weekend, we nap in front of the television set, awakening from time to time by an urgent intestinal rumbling. Something warm and wet on my nose and mouth awakens me, and I see Sarah and Eva in my face. They are one year old, having been born on the Fourth of July, so I sing "Happy Birthday" to them, They seem pleased, but Zelda, sleeping out of sight under a table, leaves the room.

My 59th birthday looms, and I try to reflect on what my life has been all about. I love living in the Mojave Desert with Bruce, Zelda, Sarah and Eva. I love the solitude and the riot of stars. I wouldn't trade places with anyone, but I do get tired of the pesky obstacles:

low gathering attendance results in cash shortfall; hotel, in breach of contract overbills; CR production shuts down pending hotel's acceptance of settlement offer; late $7,000 payment expedited from distributor so we can go back into production; hotel ignores settlement, demands full payment; distributor's check bounces just as we begin to expedite a second $7,000 he owes; distributor stops returning calls; hotel threatens to sue for moneys owed, damages for the cancellation of 2001 and libel; printing contractor advises that the 80 hours of work I did on the high-tech version of CR is unusable, so "Redo it the old way," causing an additional two-week delay of CR 91; my health insurance goes up to $455 per month; both my laser and Epson Color 1520 printers go on the blitz; then ... then ... you guessed it: my hard drive goes out!

Good friends call to see if I'm okay, are amazed that I'm so cool. Of course, a year ago I would have been a basket case, but not today. All the above problems can be eventually solved. Actually, we're very lucky. We haven't been wiped out by a tornado or a hurricane or a flood, like some of our readers. We aren't fighting Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, cancer, heart disease, AIDS or emphysema, like so many of our readers. And until we do get clobbered that way, there is absolutely no reason to think that things are bad.

The work we do is immensely rewarding on the only level that means anything anymore. I waste little time pondering why CR's subscriber base is always around 2,500, or why we can only manage to lure a thousand or so to our gatherings. But I'm very thankful for the ones we've reached. I know that CR has touched a lot of lives, but I also know that the sources through which good things come are not always remembered, let along revered. Some see an entertainment magazine; some see a contact network; others see a yellow brick road. Consequently our staunch family members aren't quite at "division" strength—more like "brigade" perhaps. A genuine *Chiroñero* embraces the concept and knows that ass-kissing never enters the picture. He is a loving, caring soul and knows that ALL of us, including Bruce and myself, are cogs in a big benevolent wheel—the snickering from our more cynical brethren notwithstanding.

Bruce asks, "What do you want for your birthday?"

I respond: "Twenty more years of you."

"Seriously."

"I AM serious. Are you gonna give me twenty more years or not?"

He shakes his head and follows Zelda out of the room.

I consider what I need now, more than anything: wisdom and tolerance. *Time.*

All in the CR family—*Chiroñeros* if you will—are unique and ever mindful that, cut off or alone in a world filled with hate and indifference, we are vulnerable. We aren't aligned politically, religiously, racially, or even sexually, but we ARE aligned by a common need for that sweet, exquisite sensation, deep in our hearts. It's a feeling that we are part of a loving family and that we care very much for each other.

Come to New Orleans. Feel the love. Pat & Bruce

CUDDLE BEAR & FREDDY GATOR

tomcat

DAMAL & AUGUST MOON

peewit

GEORG & PIET

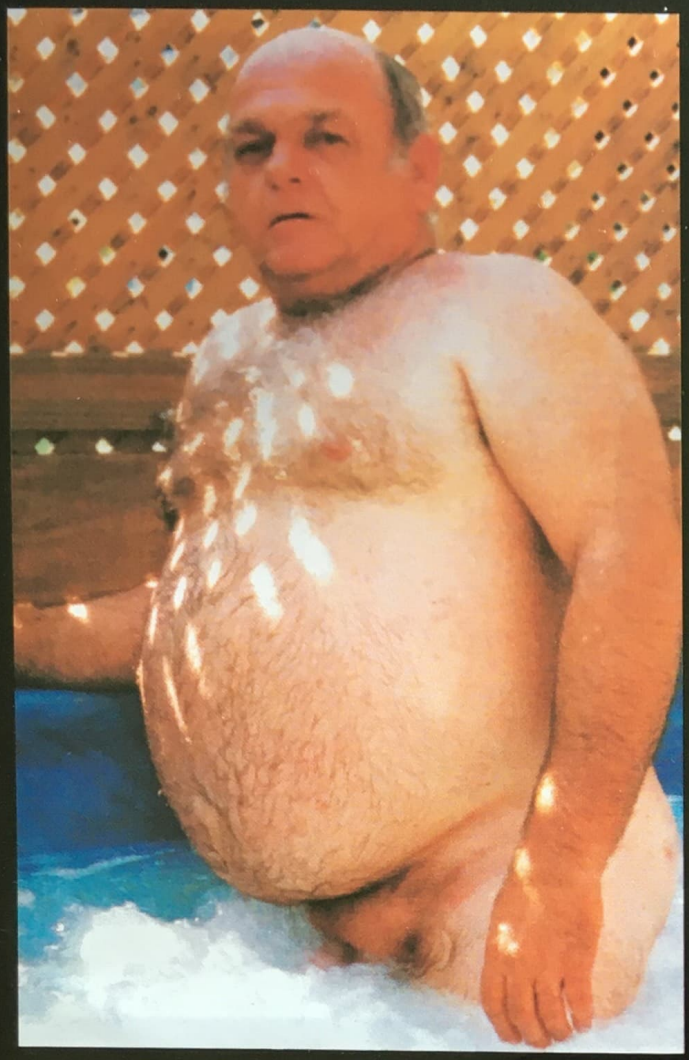
jan bok

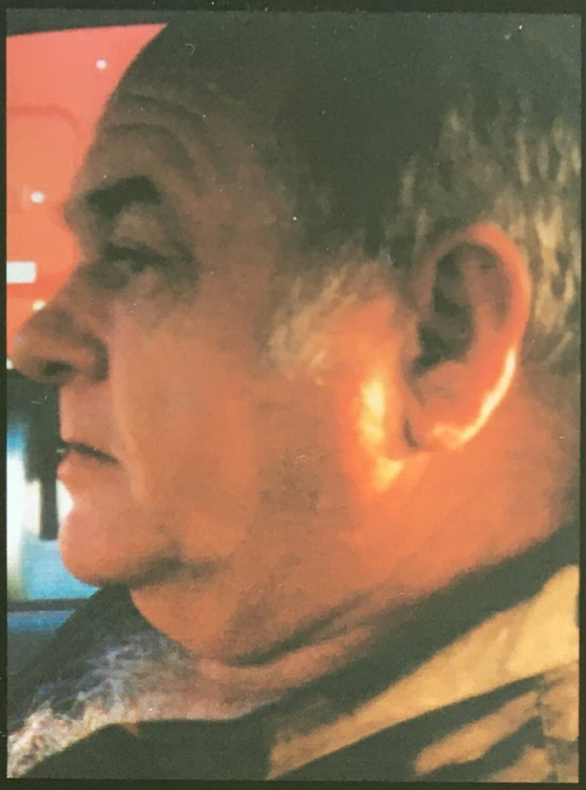
BUBBA & THOM

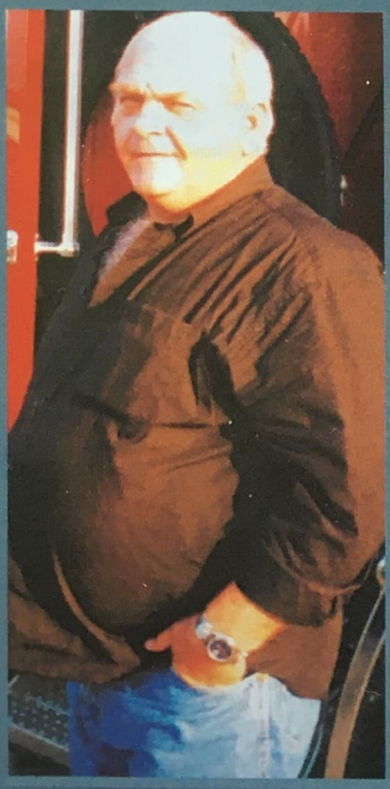
joel

WILD WOLF

all photos by
TOMCAT







GATHERING 99 GROUP PHOTOS

PHOTOMAN